

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-157

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: MIDWIVES INITIATIVE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Di Natale asked:

Given that midwives purchasing the government's preferred insurance product are required to sign a declaration indicating they would complete a prescribing course within 18 months, can the department advise of any eligible courses, or what steps have been taken to establish such a course?

Answer:

The Application Form, Policy Document and Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) for the Commonwealth-supported midwife professional indemnity product are publicly available on the Medical Insurance Group of Australia's website at www.miga.com.au

A prescribing course has been developed and is now in the process of accreditation. As the accreditation body, the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Accreditation Council (ANMAC) needs to ensure that the course meets all accreditation requirements. Once the course is approved by the ANMAC Board it will then be submitted to the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) for endorsement. This process is expected to be completed by the end of 2011.