

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-168

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medical Services

Topic: JOINT INJECTIONS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Under the item numbers for joint injections and aspirations, 50124 and 50125 - how many people were paid prior to the change?

Answer:

The joint injection items 50124 and 50125 were removed from the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) from 1 November 2009.

The table below outlines the number of patients who received services for items 50124 and 50125 in the financial year 2008-09.

Financial Year	Item No.	No. of Patients
2008-09	50124	355,045
2008-09	50125	*

*Due to small cell size, these data can not be released for confidentiality reasons.

Note:

Includes all services where a MBS claim was processed within the financial year 2008-09.