

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-184

OUTCOME 14: Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: TB AND THE TORRES STRAIT

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

What is DoHA's approach to managing the risk of TB when basic health infrastructure in the Torres Strait is insufficient?

Answer:

Frontline surveillance, detection and treatment of communicable diseases including TB are the responsibility of state and territory governments. Surveillance information from all jurisdictions, including TB, is advised to the National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System, and national data is regularly reviewed by expert committees such as the Communicable Diseases Network Australia (CDNA) and the National Tuberculosis Advisory Committee (NTAC) which are able to consider trends and appropriate outbreak responses when required.