

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19-21 October 2011

Question: E11-249

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medical Services

Topic: MSAC REBATES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Xenophon asked:

- a) Has MSAC approached the department in relation to these rebates?
- b) How many times?
- c) When?
- d) What did MSAC recommend?
- e) What was the department's response?

Answer:

- a) No. The Medical Services Advisory Committee's (MSAC) role is to provide advice to the Minister for Health and Ageing about the public funding of the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) services on the basis of applications received. It does not self-nominate areas for assessment. Where the Minister accepts MSAC's advice the Minister will direct the Department to implement her decision that follows such advice.
- b) Not applicable.
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable.
- e) Not applicable