

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-293

OUTCOME – 1 Population health

Topic: THIRD PARTY CONFORMITY ASSESSORS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Is the Department aware that the inability for Australian manufacturers to use third party conformity assessors is crippling the Australian Medical Devices industry, and ensuring they remain uncompetitive internationally?

Answer:

The Therapeutic Goods Administration is responsible for regulating therapeutic goods, including medical devices, to provide the Australian community with timely access to therapeutic goods which are consistently safe, effective and of high quality. The department is not aware that applying these standards to protect public health has untoward effects on an industry that seeks to meet these same objectives.