

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-342

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: PBS DEFERRALS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Is it the case that every new medicine, regardless of cost, or potential saving, now has to be reviewed by Cabinet?

- a) Do medicines that actually lead to savings in the health system by preventing other costs such as hospitalisation or surgery require review by Cabinet?
- b) How long will this new process apply?

Answer:

- a) Any proposed listings with a financial impact are considered by the Cabinet.
- b) That is a decision of Government.