

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-425

OUTCOME 14: Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: NATIONAL MEDICAL STOCKPILE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

In 2010/11, what was the amount and value of product that was:

- a) Used or distributed domestically;
- b) Donated internationally (including reasons);
- c) Destroyed;
- d) Returned to a manufacturer?

Answer:

In 2010/11,

- a) Used or distributed domestically – Various items of Personal Protective Equipment (1000 gloves, 5720 masks, 130 bottles of antiseptic hand rub, 720 protective goggles) were supplied directly from the National Medical Stockpile (NMS) to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service. Up until December 2010, 90 ‘GP packs’ containing syringes and needles were distributed. GP packs are used to administer pandemic influenza vaccine.
- b) Donated internationally – Nil (Pandemic H1N1 2009 vaccine is not part of the stockpile).
- c) The Department disposed of twelve types of expired items from the National Medical Stockpile.
- d) Returned to manufacturer - Nil.