

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-455

OUTCOME 2: Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: PHARMACEUTICALS AND PHARMACEUTICAL SERVICES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) Did the Government consult with the former Chair of the PBAC about the PBAC's recommendation being subject to further review?
- b) Did the Government consult with the new Chair of the PBAC about the PBAC's recommendations now being subject to being second guessed by the government?

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing is assuming that Senator Fierravanti-Wells' questions are referring to the extension to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) listing of dabigatran (Pradaxa[®]) for the treatment of atrial fibrillation.

a) and b)

The review is based on the advice of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC).