

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000823

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Bowel Cancer Screening

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

Has consideration been given to providing additional information to people who have received a negative result under the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program who might be at higher risk of bowel cancer?

Answer:

Program information and materials are regularly reviewed to ensure the information is comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date. Currently, the Program Information Booklet that is sent with the invitation letter and test kit, the negative result letter and the Program's website all provide information about what a negative test result means for a participant. If a participant has questions about their test result they can also call the Program Information Line.

The National Bowel Cancer Screening Program is a population based screening programme for asymptomatic individuals. The Program Information Booklet informs people who are invited to participate that if they develop any symptoms of bowel cancer or have a family history of bowel cancer that they should speak to their doctor about the type of testing that is most suitable.