

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.1 Family Tax Benefit

Question No: SQ15-000835

Topic: Immunisation

Hansard page: Written

Senator Di Natale, Richard asked:

- a) Immunisation – have you done modelling on the likely impact of linking immunisation to family tax credit A access payments?
- b) If so, I think there are about 39,000 immunisation refusers in the country what percentage would you think would change behaviour?

Answer:

a) The customer impacts of the measure were costed as part of the Budget process. Publically available historical immunisation data was used in the development of the costing assumptions (<http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/acir-ann-cov-hist-data.htm>). Effects on particular family types or incomes were not modelled.

b) The majority of families who immunise their children as a result of this policy are expected to be families of children who do not meet the requirement for a reason other than vaccination objection. The rate of objection is only expected to decline slightly as shown in the table below:

Fig 1 - Estimated percentage of children with a vaccination objection recorded against their record who will fail the immunisation requirement by year as a percentage of the total FTB Part A child population

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.8%	1.7%	1.6%	1.5%