

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000395

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: Out-of-Pocket Costs

Type of Question: Hansard Page 30, 19 October 2016

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Senator DI NATALE: I am talking about general practice out-of-pocket costs, increases adjusted for inflation, which sounds to me like the same.

Mr Stuart: Yes.

Senator DI NATALE: So we need to double-check that. So the 2015-16 increase was?

Mr Stuart: 7.6.

Senator DI NATALE: So pretty consistent in the most recent year with previous years?

Mr Stuart: Yes.

Senator DI NATALE: Okay. Good.

Mr Stuart: In fact, probably historically the numbers—the proportions were higher in the earlier part of the decade.

Senator DI NATALE: Yes. Again, we will see if we can cross-check that again. Thank you. I am done on that specific bit of information.

Answer:

Growth rate figures for the Average Patient Contribution for non-referred attendances (including GP/VR GP, Enhanced Primary Care, and Other) from 2006-07 to 2015-16 in real terms (CPI adjusted to 2015-16 dollars) are as follows:

Financial year	% growth on previous year
2006-07	12.6%
2007-08	6.3%
2008-09	8.2%
2009-10	5.4%
2010-11	3.8%
2011-12	5.6%
2012-13	3.6%
2013-14	2.7%
2014-15	2.1%
2015-16	5.4%