

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000400

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: Out-of-Pocket Growth

Type of Question: Hansard Page 35, 19 October 2016

Senator: Reynolds, Linda

Question:

Senator REYNOLDS: And perhaps you can also give us the out-of-pocket growth over the last 10 years as well. Is that possible to have a look at?

Mr Bowles: We will try and do that.

Senator REYNOLDS: Thank you. If you can do that today, that is fantastic. If not, you can do it later.

Mr Bowles: Yes, I will give it to you later.

Answer:

Table 1: 2015-16 average OOP* amount for total Medicare services**

| | 2015-16 | 2014-15 | 2013-14 | 2012-13 | 2011-12 | 2010-11 | 2009-10 | 2008-09 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| OOP (\$) | \$58.49 | \$54.60 | \$51.61 | \$48.12 | \$44.98 | \$41.74 | \$37.06 | \$34.25 | \$31.72 | \$29.22 |
| Growth | 7.12% | 5.79% | 7.25% | 6.98% | 7.76% | 12.63% | 8.20% | 7.98% | 8.56% | |

Table 2: 2015-16 average OOP* amount for total non-referred services***

| | 2015-16 | 2014-15 | 2013-14 | 2012-13 | 2011-12 | 2010-11 | 2009-10 | 2008-09 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 |
|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| OOP (\$) | \$34.24 | \$32.16 | \$31.03 | \$29.32 | \$27.65 | \$25.88 | \$24.08 | \$22.16 | \$20.20 | \$18.19 |
| Growth | 6.47% | 3.64% | 5.83% | 6.04% | 6.84% | 7.48% | 8.66% | 9.70% | 11.05% | |

*Out-of-pocket amount: the average patient contribution per patient billed out-of-hospital service. This does not include bulk-billed services as there is no patient contribution for those services.

** Total Medicare services: all MBS service types

*** Total non-referred services: predominantly GP non-referred attendances