

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016**

**Ref No:** SQ16-000600

**OUTCOME:** 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation

**Topic:** Organ Donation

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

Are you aware of reports and evidence since the 1990s of unethical organ procurement procedures in China, including forced organ procurement from executed prisoners and prisoners of conscience, mainly Falun Gong practitioners, in a state-led systematic process?

a) If so, what have you done to ensure that Australians are aware of this, and are not unwittingly supporting this activity?

**Answer:**

Yes, the Department of Health is aware of these reports.

The shortage of organs available for transplantation is a global issue with demand exceeding supply. To increase the number of life-saving transplants in Australia, the Australian Government is working in partnership with state and territory governments and the clinical community to implement the national reform agenda on organ and tissue donation and transplantation.