

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000610

OUTCOME: 1 - Health System Policy, Design and Innovation

Topic: Organ donation - Ludlam Senate QON100

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

On 'transplant tourism' the answer says "While not illegal, any attempt to exploit the vulnerable for the purpose of retrieving organs is strongly condemned by all governments".

- a) Has the department looked into transplant tourism at all, outside of prevalence, to any question of international law or other countries that have taken action against it?
- b) Is the department aware that a number of countries including Israel, Spain, and Taiwan have banned organ tourism, and USA and EU have passed strong resolutions against it?

Answer:

- a) Yes.
- b) Yes. The Department of Health is aware that some countries are implementing measures to deter people from engaging in 'transplant tourism'.

Australia is a signatory to the Declaration of Istanbul and the World Health Organizations Guiding Principles that relate to organ and tissue donation and transplantation.