

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000702

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: Bulk Billing

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Watt, Murray

Question:

For each Commonwealth electorate, please provide the average out-of-pocket cost for privately billed specialist services. This data should be provided by year and quarter and go back 10 years (or as far as practicable) to allow for comparison.

Answer:

The Department does not routinely compile statistics showing the average out-of-pocket cost for privately billed specialist attendances by Commonwealth Electorate. The Department is unable to provide these statistics by Commonwealth Electorate by financial year and quarter over a 10 year period as the considerable work involved would require a significant diversion of resources from other departmental operations.

The average out-of-pocket cost for privately billed specialist attendances nationally, by state and territory and by remoteness area by financial year and by quarter for a ten year period are available on the Department of Health website at

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/Medicare+Statistics-1>