

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

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

**Ref No:** SQ16-000711

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** Diagnostic Imaging Licences

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

**Senator:** Watt, Murray

**Question:**

Why didn't the Government grant an MRI licence to Tweed Hospital, or other areas around Australia? Did the Department provide any advice on those decisions?

**Answer:**

Medicare eligibility for MRI is typically granted under formal application processes. The Australian Government has not announced an intention to extend Medicare eligibility to additional MRI machines. Therefore there is no application process open for providers to obtain MRI Medicare eligibility.

The Department of Health provided advice in relation to the request for Medicare eligibility at this location.