

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2010-2011

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Sports Agencies

Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority

Question: PM55

Asked By: Senator XENOPHON

Topic: ASADA – Drug test statistics

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA page, 130, 21 February 2011

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Number of pages: 3

Senator XENOPHON—Could you provide on notice details of how many tests are undertaken, under what circumstances those tests are undertaken and whether it is under the user-pays or government funded arrangement?

Ms Andruska—I can give you those figures now.

Senator XENOPHON—Perhaps not. If they are on the record then that is fine. I am happy to get them on notice because I am conscious of time.

Answer:

ASADA conducts a comprehensive anti-doping testing program as part of its Detection and Deterrence functions. This program includes 3,800 Australian Government Funded (GF) tests and approximately 2,800 User Pays (UP) funded tests annually.

ASADA plans and implements its sample collection program in accordance with Article 5 of the Code which covers test distribution planning, and standards for testing.

This testing program is consistent with world's best practice in its design and philosophy which encompasses the priority being given to No Advance Notice testing and targeted testing.

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No Advance Notice testing is the most effective form of doping control as it minimises the opportunity for an athlete to manipulate their sample.

Where possible, tests are targeted on the basis of specific intelligence rather than random athlete selections. This is in line with Article 5.1.3 of the Code which states that each anti-doping organisation shall “make target testing a priority” to ensure appropriate athletes are subject to doping control.

- In accordance with the 2009-2010 and 2010 -2011 PBS, ASADA’s commitment to the Australian Government is to conduct between 3,500 and 4,200 Government Funded (GF) tests.
- In addition to GF tests, ASADA also undertakes tests on a fee for service basis consistent with cost recovery arrangements (these are also known as User Pay tests – UP tests).
- Tests are collected both In Competition (IC) and Out of Competition (OOC) and comprise both urine and blood samples. In Competition, as defined in the National Anti-Doping Scheme (NAD Scheme) and the World Anti-Doping Code (the Code), is essentially the period commencing 12 hours before a competition in which an athlete is scheduled to participate through the end of the competition (unless otherwise provided for in the sporting body rules).
- The table below sets out the total number of GF and UP tests for the 2009-10 financial year as well as Year To Date (YTD) totals. It also identifies whether the tests were taken In Competition or Out of Competition.
- In summary, Year To Date there have been:

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- (i) 2,152 GF tests consisting of 1,446 samples collected Out of Competition and 706 samples collected In Competition; and
- (ii) 1,840 User Pays tests consisting of 1,186 samples collected Out of Competition and 654 samples collected In Competition.

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Table of Tests for 2009-10 and YTD

		2009 – 2010			2010 – 2011			
Program		Urine	Blood	Totals	YTD to end of February 2011			Total Anticipated to 30 June
					Urine	Blood	YTD	
GF	IC	1,169	377	1,546	566	140	706	1,700
	OOC	1,554	729	2,283	929	517	1,446	2,100
	Total	2,723	1,106	3,829	1,495	657	2,152	3,800
UP	IC	889	56	945	606	48	654	900
	OOC	1,464	368	1,832	884	302	1,186	1,800
	Total	2,353	424	2,777	1,490	350	1,840	2,700
Grand Totals		5,076	1,530	6,606	2,985	1,007	3,992	6,500