

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013**

**Question:** E13 - 100

**OUTCOME:** 8 - Indigenous Health

**Topic:** Dialysis - Working with the State Government

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

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question:**

Will you continue to negotiate with State Governments to ensure that there is patient funding available to remote community dialysis services, rather than just in city centres?

**Answer:**

The Australian Government is considering how best to address the unacceptably high levels of kidney disease and associated issues around access to renal dialysis services in central Australia.

Under the National Health Reform Agreement, the majority of Australian Government funding for public hospital services, including dialysis, is now provided under Activity Based Funding arrangements based on a National Efficient Price. This includes services that are traditionally provided in a public hospital setting but can be provided in an outpatient clinic or other setting including home dialysis.