

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

#### IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

#### **(SE15/016) - (ABYAN) - last time saw a medical professional on Nauru - Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management**

Senator Carr, Kim (L&CA 57) asked:

Senator KIM CARR: Right. Is the department able to advise when the refugee who was deported on Friday night and who has been spoken about at estimates hearings today last saw a medical professional on Nauru?

Mr Pezzullo: I might ask Mr Skill to resume his place at the table. I am assuming it would have been on the eve of or shortly before her travel to Australia for the transfer for the medical procedure, because there would have been not necessarily a consultation around the procedure itself, but a consultation around her fitness to travel. But I might just see if Mr Skill has further and better particulars.

Mr Skill: The individual was seen by medical professionals on Nauru in the two days before she travelled to Australia.

Senator KIM CARR: Was that a nurse or a doctor?

Mr Skill: I would have to check that, but I believe she was an in-patient, so it would have been both.

Senator KIM CARR: Was an interpreter available for that consultation?

Mr Skill: I will have to check that detail.

Senator KIM CARR: Have there been any medical consultations since her return to Nauru?

Mr Skill: My advice is that she has engaged with IHMS mental health support, but I do not have any further detail with regard to the content of that.

Senator KIM CARR: If you could get details of that. I am particularly interested in whether there was an doctor or nurse in that regard. Can I go to the issue of onshore management. How many detainees are currently in the onshore detention network?

*Answer:*

Before her transfer to Australia on 11 October 2015, Abyan was an inpatient at the Republic of Nauru Hospital, where her medical care was provided by a locum hospital obstetrician/gynaecologist and hospital nursing staff.

Interpreters are made available at the Republic of Nauru Hospital for refugee and transferee consultations. A Somali interpreter attended the Republic of Nauru Hospital daily while Abyan was admitted. The Department has been unable to confirm whether the interpreter was present at all of Abyan's hospital-based consultations. On 17 October 2015, after her return to Nauru, Abyan was reviewed by an IHMS general practitioner and mental health clinicians.