

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING : 19 October 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE15/047) - Children on Nauru - Prescription Medication Programme 1.5: IMA Offshore Management

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah (L&CA 115) asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: How many children on Nauru are being prescribed antidepressant medication?

Ms Briscoe: I do not have that information. I would have to request that from our health service provider and take it on notice.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Could you please? And could you also take on notice how many children in the onshore network are prescribed antidepressants or any other type of psychiatric medication?

Ms Briscoe: Yes.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I want those figures for both onshore and Nauru.

Ms Briscoe: Understood.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I also want to know how many children outside the camp in Nauru are being prescribed those medications as well. I do not just want the children in the camp, I want all children on Nauru. Does that make sense?

Ms Briscoe: Yes.

Answer:

During 1 July 2015 to 30 September 2015 (the period of the latest health datasets):

- No minors at the Nauru Regional Processing Centre (RPC) were prescribed anti-depressants or other psychiatric medications;
- No refugee minors settled in Nauru (outside the RPC) were prescribed anti-depressants or other psychiatric medications; and
- eight minors in immigration detention facilities onshore were prescribed one or a combination of anti-depressant, anti-psychotic, anti-anxiety or sedative medications.