



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health**

Ms Pothida Youhorn  
Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Youhorn,

I am writing in relation to the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Estimates 2021-22 Health Portfolio hearing on 27 October 2021.

I wish to correct evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Health (page 112 of the Proof Hansard refer).

In answering a question from Senator Steele-John, Deputy Secretary Shakespeare said: "I have just been informed that there was actually an MBS Review Taskforce recommendation, which is still under consideration by the government, to increase the age for that specific item from 18 to 25. So there is work to consider changing the age limits".

The response was accurate based on the information available at that time. I have become aware that the accrual age limit was incorrect; it is in fact 13 to 25 not 18 to 25. Therefore the correct answer would be "an MBS Review Taskforce recommendation, which is still under consideration by the government, to increase the age for that specific item from 13 to 25. So there is work to consider changing the age limits."

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Travis Haslam'.

Mr Travis Haslam  
A/g First Assistant Secretary  
Medical Benefits Division

3 December 2021