

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

Australian Government response to the COVID-19 pandemic

11 June 2020

PDR Number: IQ20-900020

National Medical Stockpile - PPE

Spoken

Hansard Page number: 2

Senator : Murray Watt

Question

Senator WATT: There are four subsets of questions. Firstly, could you please provide the number of residential service providers given access to the National Medical Stockpile, the name of the service provider or residential aged-care facility; the date the request was made and the date the PPE was received and the type of PPE, including the numbers of surgical masks, gowns, gloves, eye protection, sanitiser, aprons and any other PPE. Secondly, could you please provide the number of home-care service providers given access to the National Medical Stockpile; the name of the service provider, the date the request was made and the date the PPE was received and type of PPE – I won't repeat the categories. Thirdly, could you please provide the total number of PPE allocated from the National Medical Stockpile to aged-care providers by type – again, the same categories. Fourthly, could you please provide the number of requests made from residential aged-care providers to access additional PPE from the National Medical Stockpile due to the introduction of the visitation code. My impression would be that those last two would not be particularly confidential.

Ms Edwards: Quite a lot of the answer will be able to be answered. Any PPE provided to a facility which has already been in the news or otherwise advertised we can provide. I think what we could do is –

Mr Lye: I think we can answer that whole list. Some of the providers who we provided PPE to weren't outbreak sites so I think we can probably do that not in camera.

Answer:

All data provided is at 28 June 2020

As at 28 June 2020, 243 residential aged care services have requested and received PPE. A list of these services, the date the request was received, location and type and amount of PPE distributed is included in [REDACTED]

As at 28 June 2020, 68 home care providers have requested and received PPE. A list of these services, the date the request was received, location and type and amount of PPE distributed is included in [REDACTED]

All services that met eligibility criteria for PPE received a supply.

The Department does not have access to delivery dates for distribution of PPE. Stock is generally distributed by state and territory governments and, on occasion, direct from the National Medical Stockpile (NMS) to providers, and typically within 24 hours from request. The NMS replenishes state and territory reserves as required.

The table below summarises the total PPE supplied for in-home care and residential aged care as at 28 June 2020:

PPE type	Residential care	Home Care	Total
P2/N95 masks	49,190	260	49,450
Surgical masks	275,035	20,330	295,365
Gloves	410,850	300	411,150
Gowns	217,950	250	218,200
Total	953,025	21,140	974,165

The Department collects a reason for the request for PPE to the NMS such as COVID-19 confirmed or suspected case or an influenza outbreak. Data is not collected on whether the visitation code affected a service's request.