

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-11, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-205

OUTCOME 13: Acute Care

Topic: ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Adams asked:

Where A & E and elective waiting lists are concerned, are hospitals in regional and rural areas getting better or worse?

Answer:

Individual hospital data is available on a variety of websites, including the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, MyHospitals and other sites established by the states and territories.

For elective surgery, in 2008-09 about 84% of patients, admitted from elective surgery waiting lists to regional and remote hospitals, were within clinically recommended timeframes. Over the period 2006-07 to 2008-09, the number of elective surgery admissions to rural and remote hospitals increased from 127,000 to 137,000, almost 8%.