

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2013 - 2014, 26 February 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000218

OUTCOME: 3 - Access to Medical Services

Topic: GP Visits

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas Jan

Question:

- a) What is the average growth in visits to GPs?
- b) What is the actual growth in visit to GPs?
- c) What is the proportion of growth in GP visits over the last 5 and 10 years?
- d) What is the proportion of growth in GP visits per person over the last 5 and 10 years?
- e) What is the average number of visits to GPs per person per year?
- f) What is the average annual growth in visits to GPs per person?

Answer:

a) to f)

Please see the information provided in Tables 1 and 2 over page.

Table 1. Statistics for MBS GP Services over the last 10 Financial Years from 2003-04 to 2012-13

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Number of Services	96,330,308	98,180,450	101,094,824	103,433,112	109,517,639	113,044,819	116,646,419	119,222,062	123,917,086	128,704,593
Number of services per capita	4.8	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.3	5.5	5.5
Number of patients	16,490,566	16,651,485	16,989,116	17,228,125	17,714,528	18,148,362	18,576,181	18,819,422	19,196,570	19,586,466
Per cent of population visiting GPs	82.7%	82.5%	83.1%	82.7%	83.4%	83.7%	84.3%	84.3%	84.5%	84.1%
Average number of services per patient	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.5	6.6

Table 2. Growths (per cent %) in MBS GP services over the Last 10 Financial Years from 2003-04 to 2012-13

Growth in below statistics	Actual growth each year									Average annual growth over last 10 financial years 2003-04 to 2012-13	Total 5-year growth over last 5 financial years 2008-09 to 2012-13	Total 10-year growth over last 10 financial years 2003-04 to 2012-13
	2003-04 to 2004-05	2004-05 to 2005-06	2005-06 to 2006-07	2006-07 to 2007-08	2007-08 to 2008-09	2008-09 to 2009-10	2009-10 to 2010-11	2010-11 to 2011-12	2011-12 to 2012-13			
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%			
Number of Services	1.9	3.0	2.3	5.9	3.2	3.2	2.2	3.9	3.9	3.3	13.9	33.6
Number of services per capita	0.7	1.6	0.5	3.8	1.1	1.6	0.8	2.2	1.3	1.5	6.0	14.3
Number of patients	1.0	2.0	1.4	2.8	2.4	2.4	1.3	2.0	2.0	1.9	7.9	18.8
Per cent of population visiting GPs	-0.2	0.7	-0.4	0.8	0.4	0.8	-0.1	0.3	-0.5	0.2	0.5	1.6
Average number of services per patient	0.9	0.9	0.9	3.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.9	1.8	1.3	5.5	12.5

Notes for Table 1 and Table 2:

GP services include the MBS Broad Type of Services (BTOS) A, B and M.

BTOS A: Non-referred attendances GP/VR GP

BTOS B: Non-referred attendances - Other

BTOS M: Non-referred attendances - Enhanced Primary Care

Financial year is based on date of data processing.

