

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2013-14 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 8

Question No: 520

Topic: Dementia and Behavioural Supplements

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

- 1) How much has been expended on Dementia and behavioural supplements? How does this compare with budget forecasts?
- 2) Are further funds required for this supplement? If so, how is the Department addressing that?
- 3) How much does the Department anticipate will be required to meet the demand between now and 30 June 2014?
- 4) Will the Minister outline what steps he has taken to ensure the supplements are adequately funded to meet future demands?
- 5) Please provide a breakdown of where the dementia and behavioural supplements are expended by state and territory, including metropolitan, regional, rural and remote locations, and home care and residential care.

Answer:

1) The Dementia and Severe Behaviours Supplement was introduced on 1 August 2013. The supplement is designed to provide additional financial assistance to approved providers in recognition of the additional costs of caring for residents with severe and complex behavioural and psychological symptoms associated with dementia and other conditions. To the end of 2013, \$37.5 million had been spent on the supplement.

Funding for the Dementia and Severe Behaviours Supplement is included in the appropriation for residential care. In 2013-14, funding for residential care is an estimated \$9.7 billion.

2) The Dementia and Severe Behaviours Supplement is funded as part of a special appropriation. The Department routinely varies the estimates for special appropriations in accordance with latest available claim data for all relevant aged care subsidies and supplements.

3) Full year expenditure on the Dementia and Severe Behaviours Supplement is expected to be \$92.5 million based on current claim data.

4) The Department will continue to update its estimates as required to ensure funds are available for all subsidies and supplements paid from the aged care special appropriations.

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5)

Dementia and Severe Behaviours Supplement - Claims by State and Remoteness Area (up to 31 December 2013)

	Count of recipients	Claim Days	Claims (\$)
State			
NSW	8,038	791,606	\$12,784,437
Vic	6,186	575,757	\$9,297,995
Qld	3,703	336,740	\$5,438,351
SA	2,076	187,390	\$3,026,348
WA	2,805	300,628	\$4,855,142
Tas	918	105,966	\$1,711,351
NT	51	4,221	\$68,169
ACT	234	22,659	\$365,943
Total	24,011	2,324,967	\$37,547,736
Remoteness			
Major Cities of Australia	17,653	1,713,135	\$27,666,649
Inner Regional Australia	4,655	445,823	\$7,200,041
Outer Regional Australia	1,595	152,804	\$2,467,785
Remote Australia	30	3,445	\$55,637
Very Remote Australia	22	1,999	\$32,284
NA	56	7,761	\$125,340
Total	24,011	2,324,967	\$37,547,736