

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015, 25 February 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000091

OUTCOME: 1 - Population Health

Topic: Practice Incentive Payments

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Former Minister Dutton [in an address to the AMA] said the Government would merge five Practice Incentive Programs into a single, quality-focussed program. What has happened since this announcement? Is the development of a quality-focused PIP part of a broader effort to improve outcomes in primary care and which PIP programs are being considered for amalgamation?

Answer:

The Department of Health has been consulting with the Practice Incentives Programme Advisory Group (PIP AG) on the future strategic direction of the PIP. The PIP AG is a departmental non-statutory committee that provides advice and assistance on the development and implementation and modification of PIP incentives.

Any PIP quality improvement incentive will be designed to inform and contribute to improving outcomes in primary care.

There has been no decision about which PIP incentives would be amalgamated into a quality improvement incentive.