

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 15, 25 February 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000151

OUTCOME: 7 - Health Infrastructure, Regulation, Safety and Quality

Topic: Smith and Nephew Birmingham Hip Resurfacing (BHR) Devices

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Xenophon, Nick

Question:

1. I note as of October 2014, there were 624 Smith and Nephew Birmingham Hip Resurfacing devices (BHR) requiring revision. Why isn't it possible to determine whether any of these individual revisions occurred earlier than expected? Isn't this important information for patients and doctors to be made aware of?
2. Of the 624 BHR implants requiring revision, does the TGA have information on the number of cases that fit into the patient groups previously highlighted? If so, can you provide a breakdown?

Answer:

1. The Australian Orthopaedic Association National Joint Replacement Registry does not publish patient specific data, only aggregated data. Therefore, it is not possible to breakdown the 624 revisions to individual revision periods.
2. The Therapeutic Goods Administration does not have a breakdown of the demographics for the 624 revised BHR implants.