

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2014-2015, 25 February 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000167

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

Topic: Xenotransplantation

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Rhiannon, Lee

Question:

1. Papers published in the American Journal of Transplantation 2014 suggest that Western Sydney Local Health District is involved with Porcine Islet Xenotransplantation. Is this correct?
2. Could you please advise whether the Western Sydney Local Health District's animal experimentation ethics committee has approved any research that involves transplantation to baboons?
 - a) If yes, has the research has proceeded to whole organ transplants?
 - b) If whole organ transplants are being conducted:
 - i) When has it occurred?
 - ii) What animals have been involved (i.e. species, numbers, names)?
 - iii) What is the current health status of these animals?
 - iv) What government funding has been awarded for this research?

Answer:

1. The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) does not have access to information to determine whether the Western Sydney Local Health District is involved with Porcine Islet Xenotransplantation.

2. The NHMRC does not have access to information to determine whether the Western Sydney Local Health District's animal experimentation ethics committee has approved research that involves transplantation to baboons.

2(a)

See response to question 2.

2 (b) (i)

See response to question 2.

2 (b) (ii)

See response to question 2.

2 (b) (iii)
See response to question 2.

2 (b) (iv)
See response to question 2.