

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000037

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** Continuous Glucose Monitoring

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 60, 1 March 2017

**Senator:** Singh, Lisa

**Question:**

Senator SINGH: I just want to quickly ask about the diabetes election commitment for continuous glucose monitoring, and particularly the delay. I wanted to just go back and ask if that delay is because you have underestimated the demand for CGM?

Mr Bowles: No, Senator. We are out of sync again; I had people who could talk about that here earlier on. But the answer is no. We are getting confused about budget documents versus policy documents and all that sort of stuff.

CHAIR: I think Senator Dastyari covered this earlier.

Mr Bowles: He did.

Senator SINGH: It was just a follow-up on that. Also, is it uncapped? Can as many people as they want receive it?

Mr Bowles: I will have to take that on notice.

Senator SINGH: Can you take it on notice?

Mr Bowles: I will take it on notice, yes.

Senator SINGH: How will CGMs be allocated?

Mr Bowles: I will take that on notice. We talked about that earlier and those people have gone.

Senator SINGH: I know. It is just that those questions were asked and I have some follow-ups.

**Answer:**

From 1 April 2017, children and young adults under 21 years of age who face significant challenges managing their type 1 diabetes have access to subsidised Continuous Glucose Monitoring (CGM) products under the National Diabetes Services Scheme (NDSS).

Subsidised access is available for those NDSS registrants who meet the specific eligibility criteria developed for this initiative with the assistance of an Expert Advisory Group. Eligibility is determined by registered health professionals specialising in diabetes, using these criteria.

There are two categories of eligibility and a child or young person must meet one of these to access subsidised CGM products through the NDSS. A child 10 years or younger must meet

Category A criteria, and a child or young person aged 11 years to less than 21 years must meet Category B criteria

### **Category A**

Children 10 years of age and younger with type 1 diabetes will be eligible for subsidised access to

CGM with alarms if they fulfil **ALL** of the following criteria:

- the child is expected to benefit clinically from the use of CGM; **and**
- the family/carer has the willingness and capability to use CGM; **and**
- the family/carer has the commitment to actively participate in a diabetes management plan which incorporates CGM.

### **Category B**

Children and young people with type 1 diabetes aged from 11 years to less than 21 years will be eligible for subsidised access to CGM with alarms if they fulfil **ALL** of the following criteria:

- the individual is expected to benefit clinically from the use of CGM; **and**
- the individual or family/carer has the willingness and capability to use CGM; **and**
- the individual or family/carer has the commitment to actively participate in a diabetes management plan which incorporates CGM.

**AND** they fulfil **ONE OR MORE** of the following criteria:

- frequent significant hypoglycaemia—more than one episode a year of significant hypoglycaemia requiring external, third party assistance; **and/or**
- impaired awareness of hypoglycaemia; **and/or**
- inability to recognise, or communicate about, symptoms of hypoglycaemia; **and/or**
- significant fear of hypoglycaemia for the child/young person or a family member/carer which is seriously affecting the health and wellbeing of the child or young person or contributing to hyperglycaemia as a reaction to this fear.