

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000199

OUTCOME: 2 - Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Practice Incentives Program

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Griff, Stirling

Question:

What obligations did the GP practices have to meet in order to receive the PIP in 2015-16?

Answer:

Practices must have registered for the Practice Incentives Program (PIP) and then applied for one or more of the 11 PIP incentives. Once registered for the PIP, practices were required to meet the eligibility requirements of each incentive they applied for.

To be eligible to participate for the PIP, and any of the 11 incentives, a practice was required to:

- meet the PIP definition of an ‘open practice’ (when one or more registered medical practitioner(s) provide face to face medical or health services to patients at the practice location registered for the PIP);
- be accredited or registered for accreditation against the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP) Standards for general practices;
- if the practice was registered for accreditation, full accreditation must have been obtained within 12 months of joining the PIP and the practice was required to ensure their accreditation is up-to-date at all times;
- maintain current public liability insurance; and
- make sure all general practitioners and nurse practitioners maintain current professional indemnity cover.

Further information on eligibility for the PIP and incentives is available publicly on the Department of Human Services website at <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/health-professionals/enablers/after-hours-incentive>