

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30 May 2011

Question: E11-068

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medical Services

Topic: RADIATION ONCOLOGY WORKFORCE POSITIONS

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Senator Adams asked:

I see in the budget that places have been funded, but how much interest has there been in people taking up these areas of expertise?

Answer:

In 2010-11, funding has supported a total of:

- 29 Radiation Therapists (RTs) to undertake the National Professional Development Program (or intern year) which then enables graduates to gain recognition by the Australian Institute of Radiography as a practitioner able to work independently;
- 2.5 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Clinical Preceptor positions (Tutors) to support RT registrars during their training;
- 15 Radiation Oncology Medical Physicist (ROMP) registrars towards their training, over a period of 3.5 years; and
- 1.5 FTE Clinical Preceptor positions (Tutors) to support ROMP registrars during their training, over a period of 3.5 years.