

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-338

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medical Services

Topic: ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION FOR TRANSPLANTATION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

What is the definition of a “designated requester”?

Answer:

The current national policy on requesting family consent to organ donation, as set out in the DonateLife hospital performance audit (the DonateLife Audit), is that requesting consent should be undertaken by an “appropriate requester”. An “appropriate requester” is “a person considered to be sufficiently skilled to undertake discussions about organ donation with the family of a potential donor. This includes organ donor coordinators (or hospital senior registered nurses with donor coordination experience), Fellows of the College of Intensive Care Medicine (i.e. doctors who have specialised in intensive care medicine) and those who have completed a medical Australasian Donor Awareness Program workshop or equivalent (i.e. Transplant Procurement Management, Verble & Worth workshop) in the past 5 years.”