

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 30/31 May 2011

Question: E11-389

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: REVIEWS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

- a) How many Reviews are currently being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each Portfolio?
- b) When will each of these reviews be concluded?
- c) What reviews have been concluded this Financial Year to Date?
- d) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?
- e) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?
- f) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?
- g) What further reviews are planned for 2010-11 Financial Year?

Answer:

The term 'review' is fairly broad and ambiguous. In answering this question the Department has interpreted it to refer to major policy reviews commissioned at Ministerial level. This answer excludes internal reviews which are undertaken as part of the day-to-day management of programs, or which are undertaken as part of administrative processes, and excludes reviews which are conducted as part of statutory obligations and program responsibilities of the Health and Ageing Portfolio.

Answers to questions a), b), c), d), e), f) and g) are provided below.

a) The total number of reviews both completed and ongoing in the health and ageing portfolio in the 2010-11 Financial Year to date is eight.

One Review is **currently being undertaken** as follows:

<b>Review title</b>	<b>d) To be Provided to Government (Y/N)</b>	<b>f) Estimated cost (\$)</b>
MBS Quality Framework demonstration reviews: – Surgical interventions for the treatment of obesity (\$155,463); – Pulmonary artery catheterisation (\$137,500); – Colonoscopy (\$131,030); and – Whole of specialty review of ophthalmology (\$187,891).	Y	611,884
b) To be completed November 2011		

The following reviews were in progress during 2010-11 and have subsequently been completed.

<b>Review title</b>	<b>d) Date Provided to Government</b>	<b>e) Date of Government Response</b>	<b>f) Estimated cost (\$)</b>
World's Best Practice Approach to Organ and Tissue Donation for Transplantation – Mid-point Implementation Review  Completed 31 July 2011	31 July 2011	23 September 2011	149,900 (to 16 August 2011)
Review of Overseas Student Health Cover  Completed 1 July 2011	1 July 2011	1 July 2011	Nil

C) The total number of reviews completed in the 2010-11 Financial Year was five.

<b>Review title</b>	<b>d) Date Provided to Government</b>	<b>e) Date of Government Response</b>	<b>f) Estimated cost (\$)</b>
The Horvath Review on Adverse Events Following Immunisation associated with Panvax and Fluvax  Completed 10 March 2011	10 March 2011	25 May 2011	1,985 (to 14 July 2011)
Efficiency Review of the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy and its Supporting Structures  Completed 25 January 2011	25 January 2011	Not applicable (COAG decision)	191,338 (to 7 April 2011)
Review to improve transparency of the TGA  Completed 30 June 2011	2 July 2011	September 2011	175,253 (to 30 June 2011)
Review of Pathology Funding Arrangements  Completed 31 March 2011	Provided as part of the 2011-12 Budget process	11 April 2011	1,999,790 (to 31 May 2011)
Review of Diagnostic Imaging Funding Arrangements  Completed 2011	Provided as part of the 2011-12 Budget process	10 May 2011	1,200,740 (to 1 May 2011)

g) The above response covers all reviews commissioned in 2010-11.