Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The National E-Health Transition Authority (NEHTA)

Budget Estimates

June 2013

Subject Outcome: E-Health 10.2

Agency: NEHTA

Issue: NEHTA – Standards/Functionality of the PCEHR

Name of Senator: Sue Boyce

QUESTION: 19

Senator Boyce asked:

Is it true that the AMT naming rules distributed by NEHTA are different from those used in the PBS?

Answer:

To help clarify, the AMT Editorial Rules were created independently from the naming rules used by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Division. AMT Editorial Rules have been based on the naming conventions required to support the definition of key concepts. These rules were based on the rules created by the UK NHS in support of the Dictionary of Medicines and Devices (dm+d) as well as considering SNOMED CT principles. The difference between AMT and the PBS reflected different use cases – the AMT has been developed to allow unambiguous descriptions for identification purposes. This may take key clinical considerations into account. The PBS on the other hand had requirements based on reimbursement leading to some differences in the naming approach. PBS naming may have also been determined by relevant legislation that is not applicable to AMT.

The PBS and the AMT are now integrated, however there are still some issues currently being discussed around the display of multi-ingredient products (see Question 21).