

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 3

Question No: 408

Topic: Aged Care - Home Care

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Polley asked:

Please details telehealth initiatives included in home care packages around the country.

Answer:

There are no specific telehealth initiatives included in the Home Care Packages Programme. However the Home Care Packages Guidelines have been updated to encourage Home Care providers to support the use of telehealth, video conferencing and digital technology (including remote monitoring) where appropriate, to increase access to timely and appropriate care.

Where possible, providers within a range of Government-funded aged care programmes are able to utilise digital technologies and telehealth technologies to deliver aged care services to consumers. Generally, the department does not report on the use of these delivery methods.

The Home Care Packages Programme will be evaluated prior to 1 July 2015 and the review is expected to consider whether there has been an increased use of digital technology.