

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 - 2 June 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000308

**OUTCOME:** 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

**Topic:** Dental Care

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

What advice has been given with respect to continued concerns expressed from the Australian Dental Association about the demands on dentists to retrospectively modify invoices to patients who become aware of their eligibility for services under the CDBS well after they received dental treatment?

**Answer:**

The Department of Health has advised the Australian Dental Association that there is no requirement for a dentist to modify or issue a replacement invoice to a patient under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS).

The *Ministerial Guidelines for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule: Extenuating Circumstances for Informed Financial Consent* provide an exemption to the programme's requirements to obtain and record informed financial consent should a dentist choose to provide a replacement invoice to a patient for the purposes of claiming CDBS benefits for past treatment. The Ministerial Guidelines are available on the department's website at: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/childdental>