

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 - 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000333

OUTCOME: 2 - Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: Hepatitis C

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Will the new treatments for HCV available by the end of the year, as Minister Ley said in her post budget breakfast speech?

Answer:

The Department of Health is progressing the listing of these medicines as swiftly as possible in line with the Minister's view and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee recommendations.

At a potential cost of up to \$2 billion over the forward estimates, the listing date will depend not only on the Department and Government, but also on the progress of the negotiations with the sponsors of these medicines.