

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ15-000387

**OUTCOME:** 6 - Private Health

**Topic:** Private Health Insurance

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

**Senator:** Xenophon, Nick

**Question:**

Cardiac devices such as Implantable Cardiac Pacemakers and Defibrillators are one of insurers highest cost items. Regulated prices stipulate far higher prices than those paid in the public health system.

Has the Department or the Prostheses List Advisory Committee undertaken any price benchmarking comparing prices of Cardiac Pacemakers and Defibrillators with prices paid in other parts of the Australian health system? What were the results?

**Answer:**

The role of the Prostheses List Advisory Committee (PLAC) is to advise the Minister or her delegate on listing and benefits of prostheses on the Prostheses List.

Neither the Department of Health nor the PLAC have undertaken price benchmarking comparing prices of prostheses on the Prostheses List to prices paid in other parts of the Australian health system.