

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2017-18 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1.10 Working Age Payments

Question No: SQ17-000305

Topic: Drug Testing

Hansard page: 79

Senator Richard Di Natale asked:

What is the definition of 'treatment' and whether it has been sought or not?

Answer:

A list of the main treatment types in Australia, according to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, was tabled at the hearing on 31 May 2017.

Under the drug testing trial, a job seeker who tests positive twice will be referred by the Department of Human Services to a medical professional for assessment of their circumstances and possible treatment options. The assessment may recommend any type of drug or alcohol treatment that is appropriate for the job seeker's individual circumstances.

Examples of treatment may include, but is not limited to, further assessment services, support and case management, counselling, information and education programs, detoxification and withdrawal management, non-residential care or rehabilitation, residential care or rehabilitation, or pharmacotherapy.