

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-11, 22 October 2010

Question: E10-403

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: BENCHMARK FIGURES FROM COAG

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Senator Scullion asked:

Under the 2008 National Healthcare Agreement I understand COAG agreed to performance benchmark the halving of Indigenous smoking rates by 2018, that was two years ago. What benchmark figures has the COAG reform council supplied, if any, to date? Have they been reported to DoHA?

Answer:

The COAG Reform Council's *National Healthcare Agreement: Baseline Performance Report for 2008-09* (30 April 2010) states that:

*“nationally the proportion of adult Indigenous Australian smokers in 2008 was 44.8 per cent—in all jurisdictions, the rate of smoking among Indigenous adults was at least twice the rate for other Australians.*

*Based on these data, to meet the performance benchmark, the rate of Indigenous smokers needs to reach 22.4 per cent by 2018” (p 232).*