

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 17 & 19 October 2012

Question: E12-216

OUTCOME 10: Health Systems, Capacity and Quality

Topic: ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Di Natale

Question:

Will the Antimicrobial Resistance Standing Committee have a formal advisory role in:

- a) regulatory processes?
- b) assessing new applications and changes of use?
- c) labelling restrictions?
- d) reviews of use and testing regimes?
- e) auditing programs?
- f) both human and animal use of antimicrobials?
- g) Will members of the Committee be made available to testify as expert witnesses in court proceedings?

Answer:

- a) No, the Committee's role does not extend to regulatory processes.
- b) No, the Committee's role does not extend to assessing new applications and changes of use.
- c) No, the Committee's role does not extend to labeling restrictions.
- d) No, the Committee's role does not extend to reviews of use and testing regimes.
- e) No, the Committee's role does not extend to auditing programs.
- f) Yes, the Committee will take a one-health approach to antimicrobials. The Committee has agreed that issues regarding human health and resistance to bacteria will be the initial focus of both Antimicrobial Resistance Standing Committee (AMRSC) and the research project, Surveillance and Reporting of Antimicrobial Resistance and Antibiotic Usage in Australia: A National Study (AMRAU).
- g) Individuals of the Committee may be called as independent expert witnesses in court proceedings in their own right; however they would not represent the Committee, or the Committee's views