

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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

Question: E12-223

**OUTCOME 1 :** Population Health

**Topic:** ORGAN DONATION

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

**Number of pages:** 2

**Senator:** Senator Di Natale

**Question:**

Based on data published on the Australia and New Zealand Organ Donation (ANZOD) Registry website, between Oct 2010 and Sep 2011 there were 335 deceased donors and 1011 transplant recipients. From Oct 2011 to Sep 2012 there were 339 deceased donors and 996 transplant recipients. Over the last 12 months, compared to the previous twelve months there have been four more donors, but 15 fewer transplant recipients.

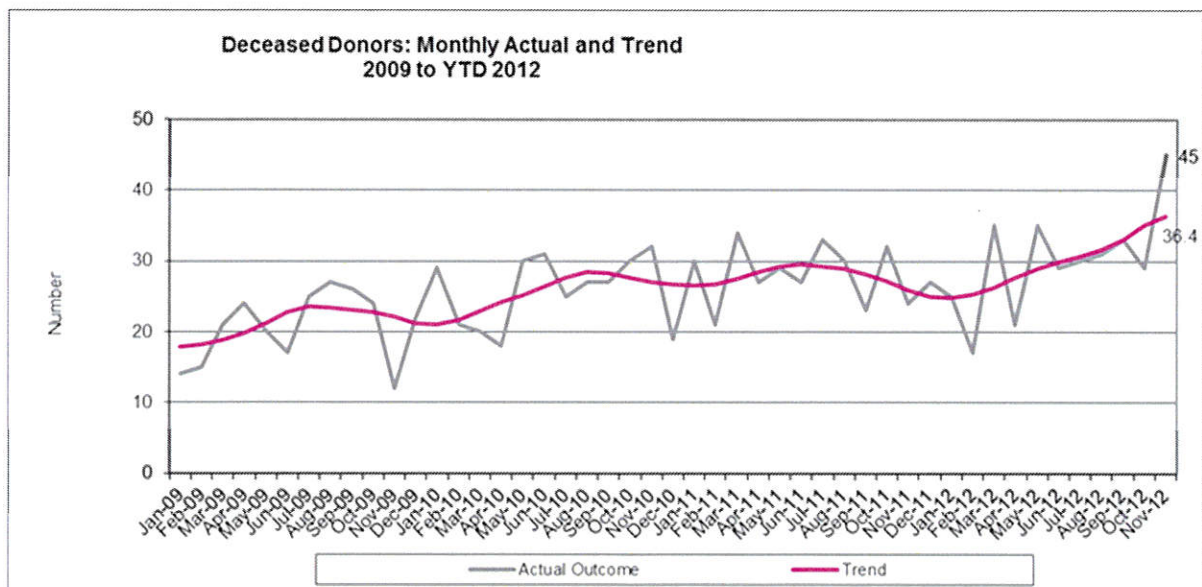
In 2012 to date there has been an increase of only two deceased organ donors compared to the same period last year.

During October senate estimates, Ms Halton stated "The bottom line is that the numbers are moving inexorably upwards." On what basis was this statement made?

**Answer:**

The statement that numbers are moving inexorably upwards is demonstrated by the following plot of deceased organ donors since January 2009 (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Deceased organ donors: Monthly actual and trend (2009- YTD 2012)



Note:

1/ The trend is calculated by taking a Henderson moving average of the Actual outcomes to smooth out month to month random volatility. It is provisional as recent points may be adjusted as additional data periods become available. A trend series is designed to show broad direction of a series rather than specific month to month outcomes.

The grey line shows the actual number of donors that have occurred from January 2009 to November 2012.

The trend line in pink smooths out the month to month random volatility and shows the broad direction of the deceased donor numbers over time.

Whilst the number of deceased donors that occur from month to month can fluctuate, the trend line in Figure 1 is moving inexorably upwards.

In addition, the following plot (Figure 2) demonstrates the annual growth in donation outcomes since the national reform agenda commenced. It indicates the year on year growth of donation outcomes.

Figure 2: National cumulative deceased organ donors

