Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES OUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

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

Question: E12-344

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: BREAST SCREENING

Type of Question: Hansard Page 18, 17 October 2012

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Senator: Senator Furner

Question:

Is it true that you need a centralised management system to make sure that images can be sent quickly and efficiently for reading wherever radiologists are available?

Answer:

For multi-service jurisdictions, a centralised management system enables mammography images to be read at different locations across a jurisdiction, depending on availability and capacity of the radiology workforce. This means that a radiologist does not need to be situated in the same location as where the mammogram is taken. As each image is read independently by two radiologists, a centralised management system also requires centralised support, to ensure appropriate oversight of image distribution, capacity and quality of reading.