

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014

Ref No: SQ14-001186

OUTCOME: 2 - Access to Pharmaceutical Services

Topic: Paroxysmal Nocturnal Haemoglobinuria Soliris Patient Numbers

Type of Question: Hansard Page 93, 22 October 2014.

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Why does only one person have access to the drug?

Answer:

As of 22 October 2014, 78 patients receive subsidised eculizumab (Soliris[®]) through the Life Saving Drugs Programme (LSDP) for the treatment of Paroxysmal Nocturnal Haemoglobinuria.

Since the LSDP post-market review was announced in May 2014, two new patients have been granted access to this medicine for this condition, with one of those new patients still currently receiving the subsidised access as at 22 October 2014.