

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014

Ref No: SQ14-001230

OUTCOME: 9 - Biosecurity and Emergency Response

Topic: Ebola

Type of Question: Hansard Page 104, 22 October 2014

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Who in Australia is involved in the training and has experience of working with Ebola?

Answer:

State and territory government health departments have primary responsibility for the management of communicable diseases and that responsibility includes training. Each state and territory has a designated hospital with Ebola-specific protocols in place and hospitals have trained and exercised their staff in these protocols. These protocols for the appropriate isolation and care of Ebola patients were established alongside the National Guidelines agreed by the Commonwealth and all states and territories.

The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC) in Darwin is a key element of the Australian Government's health emergency management capability. NCCTRC training currently includes Ebola based scenarios and exercises.