

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014**

**Ref No:** SQ14-001308

**OUTCOME:** 2 – Access to Pharmaceutical Services

**Topic:** Outsourcing of Payment Systems

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

**Senator:** McLucas, Jan

**Question:**

- a) What are the key steps for the market testing process?
- b) Who has oversight of the market testing process?

**Answer:**

- a) The key steps in the market testing process are:
  - Advertisement for Expressions of Interest (EOI) from organisations in providing health services payments;
  - Assessment of responses including any necessary clarification of responses; and
  - Advice to Government on the outcomes of the process.

Any decision post the EOI is then a matter for Government.

- b) The Department of Health has oversight of this process.