

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014

Ref No: SQ14-001374

OUTCOME: 5 - Primary Health Care

Topic: Helping Indigenous People Self-Manage their Risk of Chronic Disease

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

What work is being undertaken by the Department and associated stakeholders to raise awareness of self-management programs?

Answer:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who experience chronic disease are supported to self-manage their conditions through a range of health programmes including:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Checks: these are provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 15 years and over, and include an assessment of their physical, psychological and social wellbeing;
- Care Coordination and Supplementary Services: care coordination and a range of supports are provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have complex chronic disease care needs;
- Medical Outreach – Indigenous Chronic Disease: outreach services are provided to improve access to multidisciplinary comprehensive care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who experience chronic disease in urban, regional and remote locations; and
- Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Co-Payment Measure: improves access to PBS medicines for eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who experience, or who are at risk of, chronic disease by reducing or removing the patient co-payment for medicines listed on the PBS.