

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ14-001408

**OUTCOME:** 1 – Population Health

**Topic:** Position Statement on Abortion and Breast Cancer

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

**Senator:** Moore, Claire

**Question:**

Cancer Australia's website lists position statements described as statements address significant clinical issues, emerging issues in cancer control and issues of ongoing interest using the best available evidence.

- a. Has there been any consideration of a position statement on the alleged link between abortion and breast cancer?
- b. What would stimulate a decision on this issue?

**Answer:**

- a) Cancer Australia has previously published information regarding abortion and breast cancer risk in the report Breast cancer risk factors: a review of the evidence, which states that there is no established evidence of an association between pregnancy termination and breast cancer risk. This report is available on the Cancer Australia website.
- b) Cancer Australia has recently undertaken a review of quality research regarding abortion and breast cancer. The review, which was based on evidence from large, well designed, high quality studies from several countries, showed that there is no established evidence of an association between pregnancy termination and breast cancer risk. The outcome of this review is consistent with Cancer Australia's Breast cancer risk factors: a review of the evidence report.