

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 30 May 2014**

**Ref No:** BE14-025

**OUTCOME:** 5 - Primary Health Care

**Topic:** Closing the Gap funding

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

**Senator:** McLucas, Jan

**Question:**

The 'Real Solutions' pamphlet guaranteed that funding for all Closing the Gap in Indigenous health outcomes would be maintained. Can the department confirm that all funding allocated in the 2013-14 Budget for Closing the Gap in Indigenous health has been and will be maintained at those levels from the 2014-15 Budget and over the forward estimates?

**Answer:**

From 2014-15 to 2017-18 the Government will invest \$3.1 billion in Indigenous specific health programmes and activities – an increase of over \$500 million compared with 2009-10 to 2012-13. This does not include funding provided through Medicare and access to pharmaceuticals through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.