

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Administration Portfolio**

**Department of Human Services and agencies**

Additional Estimates 2005-2006, 14 February 2006

**Question: HS61**

**Outcome 1, Output 1**

**Topic: Electronic Medicare Claiming**

**Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written**

**SENATOR McLUCAS** asked on 14/2/2006:

1. When will the results of the tender for an electronic system that will allow Medicare claims to be verified and approved, and rebates deposited into customer bank accounts in 24 hours be announced?
2. Will this electronic system support HIC Online which is currently described as too chunky to use?
3. What sort of transactional costs will be involved with any new system? (over and above current costs)
4. Who would pay this fee – Medicare Australia or the doctor?
5. What would prevent such a fee from being handed on to the patient?

**Answer:**

1. No tender has yet been conducted for electronic Medicare claiming.
2. Refer to the answer to question 1.
3. Transaction fees for electronic claiming will be determined through a procurement process, should Government decide to proceed with this initiative.
4. Refer to the answer to question 3.
5. Refer to the answer to question 3.

This answer required 1 hour at a cost of \$40.00 to prepare.