

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2010

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 1, Program 1.1

Topic: Health and Ageing, 2010-11 Budget Measure - *National health and Hospitals Network – Hospitals – Four hour national access target for emergency departments.*

Question reference number: F14

Type of Question: Hansard 26 May 2010

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Number of Pages: 1

Question 14a – Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

I want to discuss the \$251.4 million over five years in relation to the four-hour national access targets. How was the estimated cost over five years to expand capacity within the hospital system for emergency department treatment arrived at?

Question 14b – Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Is that part of the assumptions that you can provide the details on? I am going to ask questions about emergency departments and in similar terms on improving access to elective surgery. Insofar as those assumptions are concerned, can I assume that you will be able to take those on notice?

Answer:

14a) This funding comprises two components. Firstly, payments of up to \$250.0 million over four years will be available for states and territories to upgrade capital stock associated with emergency departments. An additional \$1.4 million represents the cost of implementing this measure.

14b) This funding comprises two components. Firstly, payments of up to \$500.0 million over four years will be available to states and territories in the form of facilitation and reward payments. This includes facilitation funding of \$250 million (\$150 million in 2010-11; \$50 million in 2011-12 and \$50 million in 2012-13) and \$250 million in reward payments (\$50 million in 2011-12; \$50 million in 2012-13 and \$150 million in 2013-14). An additional \$1.9 million represents the cost of implementing this measure.