

**Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**

**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2010**

**Finance and Deregulation Portfolio**

**Outcome General, Program General**

**Topic: Medibank Private**

**Question reference number: F39**

**Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 95 26 May 2010**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010**

**Number of Pages: 1**

**Senator Kroger asked:**

How many members will be affected by the change—who may not have had the need to put in a claim but would be affected by the changes?

**Mr Sammells**—I think the important thing to remember about that is that in any given year only about 15 per cent of our members who will actually lodge a hospital claim. Whilst, clearly, there is quite a large number of people on the product, the actual impact on people is really quite small. I thought I had the number here, but I cannot find it. I will take the number on notice.

**Answer:**

There are 420,000 policies with restricted services that are affected by the changes. However it should be noted that less than 1% of hospital claims by people with these covers are for restricted services, so the number of members to see any personal impact will be very small.

The change from “restricted” to “excluded” or “included” only affects a small number of hospital services on each product involved in the changes. Cover for the majority of hospital services remains unchanged.