QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(335) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Cash asked:

How many asylum seekers detained on Christmas Island have been transported to the mainland for health reasons? What are those reasons? What conditions have been treated?

Answer.

Below is a breakdown of numbers of medical transfers and medical evacuations (medivacs) from Christmas Island to the mainland from 1 July 2010 to 29 October 2010.

Medical Transfers

Neurology	3
General Surgery	4
Psychiatry	5
Ophthalmology	1
Radiology	1
Urology	1
Colorectal	1
Otology	1
Orthopaedic	3
Cardiology	3
General Physician	1
Orthotics/Prosthetics	3
Audilogy	1
Total	28

Medivacs

Psychiatry	1
Cardiac	1
Orthopaedic	1
Total	3

Please note – 'Medical transfers' refer to clients who are transferred via commercial or routine charter flights to attend non-urgent, scheduled medical appointments. Clients who are medivaced (usually for urgent/emergency cases only) are transferred on a Royal Flying Doctors Service or CareFlight charter flight.