

IVF PROGRAMS, FUNDING

570. Mr P.G. Pental to the Minister for Health

- (1) What State Government funding is available through the Health department, and agencies such as Healthways, for fertility care or promotion programs, including IVF programs, for women having difficulty becoming pregnant?
- (2) What, if any, Commonwealth funds are managed or allocated through the Health department or any other State agency for this purpose?
- (3) If no specific funds are allocated in grants, what, if any, State/Commonwealth funds are allocated to IVF and similar research programs in –
  - (a) the current financial year; and
  - (b) for each of the previous four financial years?

Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:

1. Services currently provided by Women's and Children's Health Service, funded through its annual budget from the Department of Health are:
  - i. One Fertility Clinic per week run at KEMH
  - ii. Diagnostic tests, investigations and Medical Treatment of Fertility conducted at KEMH
2. There are no services currently provided through Women's and Children's Health Service utilising Commonwealth funding.
3. If there are valuable research projects medical professionals are encouraged to seek funding from the variety of research bodies who provide grants based on peer review and competitive process.