

HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES, COMMONWEALTH AND STATE FUNDING

1669. Dr Constable to the Minister for Health

- (1) What is the Commonwealth Government's contribution to Home and Community Care (HACC) services in Western Australia in 2001-2002?
- (2) What is the contribution of the Western Australian Government to HACC related services in 2001-2002?
- (3) What HACC related services are provided by the State Government?

Mr KUCERA replied:

1. \$60.007 million
2. \$38.868 million
3. The State Government, in addition to supporting the older population through HACC services, provides a range of community based support services through public hospitals and non-government organisations. These services encompass nursing care, occupational therapy and physiotherapy support, home modifications, transport, aids and equipment, counselling, support and advocacy services. For example:

Elderly Post Acute Service [\$528 800 pa for 1175 packages]

This program refers to the care required by frail elderly patients following an episode of acute illness. Its aim is to provide short-term care to improve the health status and independence of the patient. It is not a substitute for hospital care or early discharge program. A package generally consists of 2-4 weeks nursing and allied health services.

Home Care Packages [\$414 000 pa for 207 packages]

These packages assist patients to return to the community following an acute episode in hospital. The aim of these packages are to allow the frail elderly who are at risk of re-admission to hospital, to return to their own home with a support network. Services usually consist of HACC type services such as home maintenance, meals and personal care.

Care Awaiting Placement [\$6.9million pa]

The Care Awaiting Placement (CAP) program facilitates the transfer of patient care from the acute care sector to appropriate aged care services once the patient no longer requires acute care. The program encompasses several flexible care options including community rehabilitation and transitional care pilots that provide finite term residential care with a rehabilitation focus.

Statewide Oxygen [\$1.4million pa]

The State Government funds the provision of clinically appropriate domiciliary oxygen therapy to people with chronic hypoxaemia. Under this program patients are supplied with an oxygen concentrator as well as back up cylinder.

Patient Assistance Travel Scheme [\$10 million pa]

The State Government operates the Patient Assistance Travel Scheme (PATS) that provides a travel and accommodation subsidy to assist people to access specialist medical appointments.

The Government has committed an extra \$1 million per annum over four years to PATS. A number of enhancements to the scheme have been approved including extending assistance to dialysis and oncology patients living between 70 and 100kms from the nearest treatment centre, and assisting concession card holders with the cost of getting from the airport to the city.

Geriatric non-admitted services [approx \$8.9million pa]

The State Government funds day hospital services through public and private hospitals which includes assessment and rehabilitation of a range of disorders such as mobility problems, incontinence as well as therapy for stroke, amputee and other outpatients.

A number of specific initiatives have recently been implemented by the State Government in metropolitan public hospitals to enhance day hospital services, including:

- Rehabilitation Specialist Clinics that provide additional Botulinum toxin treatments to reduce the level of spasticity for selected patients within the acute and community sector.
- A late effects of disability clinic has been funded to improve the musculoskeletal mobility of individuals who have a childhood or acquired disability and report a progressive loss of functional

mobility relating to muscular skeletal disorders, cardio-pulmonary deterioration, balance and neurophysiological problems.

- Specialist Memory Clinics have been established at six metropolitan sites with the aim to provide specialist memory assessment and management advice to individuals with memory problems and their families, thus facilitating access to support for carers of people with dementia.
- Falls and balance clinics are provided through metropolitan Departments of Geriatric Medicine to review individuals who require a multi-disciplinary intervention strategy for falls management.
- Two specialised Parkinson's Disease units have been established in the metropolitan area for the purpose of diagnosis, assessment and specialised mobility and therapy intervention using a multi-disciplinary team approach. a support network. Services usually consist of HACC type services such as home maintenance, meals and personal care.