

PUBLIC HOSPITALS - INCIDENCES OF WRONGFUL MEDICATION BEING ADMINISTERED

2163. Mr P.D. Omodei to the Minister for Health

- (1) How many instances of wrongful medication occurred in the following hospitals -
  - (a) Royal Perth;
  - (b) Sir Charles Gairdner;
  - (c) Fremantle;
  - (d) Princess Margaret; and
  - (e) Joondalup,in the following years -
  - (i) 2004-2005;
  - (ii) 2005-2006; and
  - (iii) 2006-2007 (year to date)?
- (2) How many instances of wrongful medication occurred in public hospitals other than the abovementioned facilities in the following years -
  - (a) 2004-2005;
  - (b) 2005-2006; and
  - (c) 2006-2007 (year to date)?

Mr J.A. McGINTY replied:

(1)&(2) Medication incidents reported at a State level:

2004 - 2005:	6,191
2005 - 2006:	6,323
2006 - 11 April 2007 :	2,218

Generally, reporting of medication error is managed under qualified privilege legislation. As a result, it is not possible to provide the information requested in Question 1 and 2.

Note:

At a State level, medication incidents (a clinical incident where the primary cause of the incident involves a medication) are reported on a voluntary basis. The 2006-2007 State statistics need to be interpreted with consideration for the time delay between reporting and coding of incidents and the voluntary nature of the reporting. On a national level, medication related legal claim data is available through the medical indemnity national data collection 2003-2004 and 2004-2005. This reporting is mandatory.