

INSURANCE, PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY AND MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE CLAIMS

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

I refer the Minister to the topic of the cost of professional indemnity and medical negligence claims, and ask -

- (a) will the Minister explain why premiums for professional indemnity insurance are comparatively low compared to the cost of medical negligence claims that were settled; and
- (b) where are the funds drawn from for payments made when settlements are reached for medical negligence claims relating to incidents that occurred after 1 July 1997?

Mr J.A. McGINTY replied:

- (a) Professional indemnity insurance does not cover claims arising from medical treatment. Since 1 July 1997, such claims have been managed separately by way of a medical treatment liability cover policy purchased from RiskCover.
- (b) From RiskCover.