

**Question on Notice
No. 941
Asked on 26 May 2006**

MR KNUTH asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

With reference to the response to Question on Notice No. 611 regarding the rehabilitation unit at the Charters Towers rehabilitation centre—

- (1) What is the current bed occupancy rate of the unit?
- (2) What are the monthly bed occupancy percentages since the unit commenced in June 2001?
- (3) What is the exact number per year of referrals to the unit and from which locations did the referrals come?
- (4) What method of rehabilitative program is conducted at the unit and has the program been subject to recent evaluation?

ANSWER:

The Charters Towers Rehabilitation Unit in partnership with the Kirwan Rehabilitation Unit provide services for the communities of the Northern Area Health Service. The Model of Service Delivery is a mental health extended treatment and rehabilitation service.

- (1) Charters Towers Rehabilitation Unit is a 27 bed unit and the bed occupancy rate for the month of May 2006 is 78.5%.
- (2) The monthly bed occupancy percentages for the Charters Towers rehabilitation unit are tabled below:

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January		73.4%	61.9%	94.9%	90.2%	78.6%
February		65.1%	58.9%	86.1%	82.3%	78.2%
March		61.8%	64.0%	85.4%	86.5%	79.0%
April		60.0%	70.4%	91.1%	85.3%	77.4%
May		59.1%	76.0%	86.4%	82.0%	78.5%
June	62.3%	59.4%	88.1%	82.7%	72.8%	
July	63.7%	55.1%	84.6%	77.1%	73.2%	
August	72.6%	51.9%	86.4%	80.5%	75.1%	
September	79.4%	53.1%	84.4%	78.3%	81.2%	
October	79.7%	47.6%	94.4%	80.4%	70.4%	
November	80.4%	48.6%	92.3%	85.1%	82.0%	
December	78.3%	58.8%	93.7%	84.5%	78.0%	

Bed occupancy rates are not expected to reach 100% as consumers take periods of leave in preparation for discharge.

- (3) The number and location of referrals to the Charters Towers rehabilitation unit per year are tabled below:

	Number	Location of Referral
2001	nil	Movement of residents from former Mosman Hall Hospital into Charters Towers Rehabilitation Unit
2002	2	Cairns, Mackay.
2003	2	Cairns
2004	20	Joint referral process with Kirwan Rehabilitation Unit commenced. Bowen, Cairns, Charters Towers, Collinsville, Mackay, Mareeba, Rockhampton, Tablelands, Townsville.
2005	52	Ayr, Cairns, Innisfail, Mackay, Proserpine, Townsville.
2006	21	Cairns, Mackay, Townsville.

- (4) The Charters Towers Rehabilitation Unit is a mental health extended treatment and rehabilitation service. It provides a service for people with severe mental disorder and associated severe disability requiring extended treatment and rehabilitation.

The Charters Towers Rehabilitation Unit is a facility within the Charters Towers Health Service District which is currently accredited with the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards. This involves ongoing evaluation and bi-annual site visits to the District.