

**Question on Notice
No. 717
Asked on 22 May 2007**

MRS PRATT asked the Minister for Health (MR ROBERTSON)-

QUESTION:

With reference to non-emergency ambulance transport for patients to specialist attention and patients in my electorate with broken legs and/or in agony with cancer who are unable to get themselves to their appointments and have been told they cannot have non-emergency ambulance transport as they do not meet the criteria—

- (1) Will he advise exactly what the criteria are that a person must meet in order to have ambulance transport to specialist treatment?
- (2) Are these criteria applied consistently across the State or is it up to individual doctors to make the decision?
- (3) How many people have applied for non-emergency ambulance transport to access medical services outside the Kingaroy District?
- (4) How many were successful?
- (5) What range of non-emergency conditions were accepted as eligible?

ANSWER:

- (1) The eligibility criterion for non-emergency ambulance transport is that the patient must, in the opinion of a medical practitioner, require specialist treatment, active management, observation or transport by Queensland Ambulance Service personnel.
- (2) The eligibility criteria forms part of the Queensland Ambulance ordering guide.

With respect to patients of Queensland Health, where there are perceived issues surrounding the request for client transport by either of the parties, Medical Staff and the Queensland Ambulance Service negotiate the most appropriate form of client transport.

- (3)-(5) The information is held by Queensland Ambulance Service which is within the portfolio of the Department of Emergency Services. These matters should be referred to the Minister for Emergency Services.