

**Question on Notice
No. 491
Asked on 6 August 2013**

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

QUESTION:

Will the Minister detail the number of category 2 and 3 patients on waiting lists for eye surgery over the last financial year at the Townsville Hospital?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Dalrymple for his question.

During 2012-2013 at Townsville Hospital, 660 category 2 patients on elective surgery waiting lists received ophthalmology surgery, along with 138 category 3 patients.

At 1 July 2012, there were 114 category 2 and 246 category 3 patients on an elective surgery waiting list for ophthalmology surgery at Townsville Hospital. At 1 July 2013, there were 76 and 252 patients waiting in categories 2 and 3 respectively.

Townsville Hospital has implemented the “treat in turn” principle. As a result, the number of patients waiting longer than clinically recommended has reduced from 545 in January 2013 to 175 in July 2013.

Townsville Hospital is also participating in the state-wide surgical clinical services redesign project and has just completed the diagnostic phase of the project. It is anticipated that implementation of this project will further result in improved surgical performance.