

Question on Notice
No. 613
Asked on 26 August 2014

MRS MILLER asked the Minister for Health (MR SPRINGBORG)-

QUESTION:

As a baby is born in Australia every four days with the genetic inherited condition of cystic fibrosis and with the life span for cystic fibrosis sufferers now having increased to an estimated 37 years—

- (1) How many inpatient episodes and occupied bed days occurred in Queensland each year since 2010 for cystic fibrosis-related conditions?
- (2) What was the cost of these episodes (each year listed separately)?
- (3) Why did the Newman Government cease all funding to Cystic Fibrosis Queensland when a goal of this community organisation is to prevent cystic fibrosis-related hospital admissions?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Bundamba for her question.

The government values Cystic Fibrosis Queensland and the contribution it makes to support and self-care services for people with cystic fibrosis.

The decision to re-tender for services under the Community Self Care Grants program was made as part of a commitment to ensure that government funding is contestable, accountable and provides value for money for Queensland taxpayers. The decision was also taken to address the failure of the previous government to review almost \$1 billion per annum that they had allocated to non-government organisations over the previous 10 years, and to ensure funding supports core clinical services and does not duplicate the responsibility of the Federal Government.

Mr Glenn Poole, former Auditor-General, also reviewed Queensland Health's grant framework and recommended major changes, including strict guidelines, tendering and a move towards service agreements which detail the outcomes to be achieved by services provided by non-government organisations.

Against this background, I have been advised as follows in relation to the Member's questions:

- (1) The Queensland Hospital Admitted Patient Data Collection identifies the admitted patient episodes and patient days for a principal diagnosis of cystic fibrosis, for public and private acute hospitals in Queensland for the calendar years 2010 to 2013 as follows:

Hospital Sector	Episodes				Patient Days			
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2010	2011	2012	2013
Public	997	1,047	1,082	1,042	11,101	11,763	12,086	11,939
Private	35	41	16	25	328	353	132	195
Total	1,032	1,088	1,098	1,067	11,429	12,116	12,218	12,134

- (2) The costs involved for admissions to public hospitals in Queensland as per (1) above is as follows:

	2010	2011	2012	2013
	997	1,047	1,082	1,042
Total cost \$	\$20,319,816	\$20,425,042	\$24,661,152	\$25,243,657
Average cost per admission \$	\$20,381	\$19,508	\$22,792	\$24,226

It should be noted that the cost of service delivery for private hospitals is not available.

- (3) Funding to Cystic Fibrosis Queensland has not ceased. While not successful under the tender process, they are being offered funding until 31 December 2015 as part of a funding and support package which will allow for service delivery to continue. In addition, a consultant is currently working with Cystic Fibrosis Queensland to develop a transitional plan aimed at assisting the organisation to achieve a sustainable future through being better positioned to access other sources of funding and, if appropriate, to tender more successfully for government funding in the future.

The consultant is working closely with Cystic Fibrosis Queensland on the transition plan and it is anticipated that the plan will be submitted to the department by 30 September 2014.