

Question on Notice

No. 315

Asked on 26 March 2019

MR M HUNT asked the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services (HON DR S MILES)—

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise the current average waiting times for each category of cataract surgery on the Sunshine Coast and if the Minister has any plans or strategies to reduce these waiting times into the future?

ANSWER

I am advised that the median wait times for all elective ophthalmology procedures at the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (HHS) for the period from 1 July 2018 to 28 February 2019 were 14 days for Category 1 patients, 87 days for Category 2 patients, and 361 days for Category 3 patients.

I am further advised that the Sunshine Coast HHS is presently experiencing significantly increased demand for ophthalmology services. As a result, the HHS is implementing local strategies to ensure patients receive their elective ophthalmology procedure within the clinically recommended timeframe. These strategies include running additional theatre sessions at Caloundra Hospital for ophthalmology patients during March to June 2019.