

Question on Notice

No. 493

Asked on 9 May 2023

MR S BENNETT ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to the Falls Prevention pilot programme at the Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service (WBHHS)—

Will the Minister advise (a) why the pilot program, due to commence in January 2023, has been delayed and (b) when the pilot programme will commence in this regional area with one of the highest concentration of elderly residents?

ANSWER

I am advised that the Fraser Coast Falls Prevention Service was the pilot program for the Wide Bay Falls Collaborative, which commenced in April 2021. The pilot program was successful in improving self-reported quality of life, falls confidence, social isolation, and prevention of recurrent falls resulting in Emergency Department presentations.

The Wide Bay Falls Collaborative is a partnership between Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service, Queensland Ambulance Service, Country to Coast Queensland and Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre, and supports older people to remain safely in their home by reducing the risks from falls and social isolation.

The Wide Bay Falls Collaborative does this by providing in-home assessment, case coordination, educational information, and access to physiotherapist-led strength and mobility sessions to enhance holistic care. The Wide Bay Falls Collaborative is at no cost to the client.