

Question on Notice

No. 202

Asked on 13 March 2025

MR M BERKMAN ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

QUESTION

With reference to treatment for Hepatitis C in Queensland prisons—

Will the Minister advise (a) what the average wait time is from when a prisoner receives a script for Hepatitis C treatment to when the medication is dispensed, (b) how many prisoners had wait times over four weeks in the 2023-24 financial year, (c) in the 2023-24 financial year, how many patients have moved out of the corrections facility they were in when a script for Hepatitis C treatment was provided (whether due to release or transfer) before the medication was dispensed to them and (d) what is Queensland Health's target for the time period between prescription and dispersal of this medication?

ANSWER

I am advised that the health records of people in prison are currently paper based, therefore data is not readily available, and it would be an unreasonable diversion of resources away from front-line health services to obtain this data.

Queensland Health, however, aims to commence Hepatitis C anti-viral treatment for people in prison as soon as practicable after diagnosis and a script has been completed.