

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

Question Taken on Notice

Date: 14 June 2018
Subject: Cost to provide flu shots to eligible at-risk children
From: Mrs Lia Finocchiaro
To: Hon. Natasha Fyles
Agency: Health

Number: 4.12

Question:

How much does it cost to provide flu shots to at-risk children who are eligible?

Answer:

The National Immunisation Program is a joint initiative of the Commonwealth and states and territories to provide free vaccines to those at risk of vaccine preventable diseases.

Influenza vaccine is provided free from the Commonwealth for children aged six months and over with chronic medical conditions and for all Aboriginal children aged six months to less than five years. The NT Health services distribute, promote, administer and monitor safe and quality use of vaccines on the National Immunisation Program. The NT Department of Health funds the cold chain monitoring, vaccine distribution, coverage reporting, communication materials, education and safety monitoring for influenza vaccines given to at risk children. The approximate cost for these required services is \$50 000 per annum.

NT Government urban and remote health clinics also administer at least 50% of influenza vaccines. A total for NT Government administration costs would be at least \$62 200 - \$77 750 per year.