

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Conlan to Minister for Health

Medical Services Costs For Asylum Seekers

1. Please provide details of the financial transactions that relate to Northern Territory hospital and medical services provided to asylum seekers and provide details of reimbursements by the Commonwealth for each month of 2009/2010.

Answer:

In general, fees for public health screening services and hospital services to people in immigration detention are part of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commonwealth Government and the Northern Territory Government - *Provision of Public Health Screening and Hospital Services to People in Immigration Centres*.

While this includes services to asylum seekers, crew members of suspected illegal entry vessels or illegal foreign fishers, over 98% of persons in Immigration Detention are illegal foreign fishers.

It is not possible to separate the costs for asylum seekers.

In 2009/10, the Commonwealth Government made the following payments to the Northern Territory

Date	Reason	Amount
For services provided in 2008/09 following the Ashmore Reef boat explosion		
11/08/09	RDH	\$137 685.60
11/08/09	Careflight retrieval	\$25 080.00
11/08/09	St John Ambulance	\$24 123.00
11/08/09	Pearl Aviation Flight	\$4 872.73
For services in 2009/10 under MOU – Provision of Public Health Screening and Hospital Services to People in Immigration Centres.		
	Personnel & Operational Costs	\$516 856.20

Additional hospital services provided to people from Immigration Detention Centres:

Date	Reason	Amount
Jan 2010	2 Inpatients 16 Emergency Attendances	\$227 584
March 2010	1 Emergency Attendances	\$281
April 2010	3 Inpatients 8 Emergency Attendances	\$5976
May 2010	7 Inpatients 4 Outpatient occasions of service 12 Emergency Attendances	\$22 985
June 2010	5 Inpatients 16 Outpatient occasions of service 19 Emergency Attendances	\$98 842
		\$355,668