

St John Ambulance Australia (NT) Inc.

Answers to Questions Taken on Notice Public Hearing – ‘Ice’ Select Committee

(Friday 19 June 2015)

- 1. You stated that since 1 January this year you have attended 230 patients who have had a toxidrome consistent with potentially methamphetamine use. How does that figure compare to the number you have attended for alcohol?**

The figures for the same period (1 January – 18 June 2015) 2015 affected by alcohol was 6682.

- 2. How big is the market of people taking it because it is fun or to stay awake at night? Do you have any information on that you could share?**

St John Ambulance Northern Territory has a data field called “Activities of Daily Living” The data field is utilised by paramedics to list traits of daily living that can have an impact on the patient’s health, however it isn’t the reason for the current ambulance attendance. In this field 337 patients have indicated that they regularly use an illicit substance, these illicit substances include; Marijuana, amphetamine-based drugs and methamphetamines however we cannot break this data down further. What we can say is that these 337 users of illicit substances when they called an ambulance it wasn’t as a direct effect of using the illicit substance as was the case with 235 patient’s St John Ambulance attended as a direct affect of the toxidrome. Additionally between the two groups of people identified here there are only 3 people who are represented in both groups.