

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Guyula to the Minister for Health:

Health tertiary services funding

1. The NT Government funds Miwatj Health to deliver primary health care services. However, it is forced to spend approximately 15% of its primary health care funding to deliver unfunded tertiary services at many sites including Galiwin'ku, Ramingining and Milingimbi as there is no ready access to a hospital at these communities. The types of tertiary services provided by Miwatj that most Territorians would go to a hospital for include:

- Any emergency surgery
- Childbirth
- Broken leg, arm
- Heart attack
- Pneumonia/septic clients/severe lung disease
- Mental Health patients needing Cowdy Ward - for suicidal patients or individuals with psychosis

Why is extra funding not provided for these tertiary services which are critical life-saving services?