

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

## WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Rioli

to Minister for Health, Family and Children's Services

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### TB Cases and Programs within Maningrida and Outstations

1. How many active TB cases are currently living at Maningrida and Outstations.
2. How many active TB cases have been diagnosed within Maningrida and Outstations this year.
3. What treatment is available to those people with active TB.
4. What was the date of the last TB screening carried out on members of Maningrida community and Outstations.
5. How many people have shown a positive reaction to this screening.
6. What treatment is available to those people who have shown a positive reaction.
7. What number of those people showing a positive reaction are receiving treatment.
8. What is the scheduled date for the next TB screening for those people living at Maningrida and Outstations.
9. How many health staff are dedicated to TB programs within Maningrida and Outstations.
10. What is the 96/97 budget allocation for TB programs within Maningrida and Outstations.

### **ANSWER**

When answering please return 2 copies to The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

See attachment.

## **RESPONSE TO WRITTEN QUESTION NO 25**

1. There is presently one active TB case living at Maningrida. Two recently diagnosed cases are presently in Royal Darwin Hospital receiving treatment.
2. For 1997 to date, there have been four active cases, two from outstations.
3. Treatment for active TB is state-of-the-art four drug short course anti-TB treatment which is directly observed. All cases have received this curative treatment.
4. The last Mantoux screening for contact tracing and school screening was 24 November 1997. The last chest x-ray screening was performed from 27 October - 31 October 1997.
5. In 1997, 210 people have been screened and 200 require either initial or follow-up chest x-ray and clinical review.
6. After ruling out active TB disease, those with positive Mantoux tests who fulfil specific criteria are offered isoniazid preventive therapy for six months. Those not fulfilling the criteria or not accepting preventive therapy are recommended for chest x-ray follow-up for two and a half years.
7. Presently there are 20 people on preventive therapy. Since the recent contact tracing, another 50 candidates have been identified for preventive therapy.
8. The next scheduled visit for chest x-rays and clinical review is for January 1998. In February, the designated TB Control Nurse will assess the program and prepare a work plan for 1998.
9. From January 1997 there has been a dedicated TB Nurse position at Maningrida. A Darwin based TB Control Nurse has visited Maningrida five times in the past year. Some visits were accompanied by a radiographer and a TB Specialist. The TB Control Nurse, along with the TB Medical Officers, offer advice and support on TB Control in Maningrida on a regular basis.
10. \$18,850 (to February 1998).