

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY**

**WRITTEN QUESTION**

Mrs Finocchiaro to the Minister for Health:

**Remote Clinics**

1. How many remote health clinics in the Northern Territory have been without a full complement of medical and nursing staff?
2. Which clinics are they and what is being done to address the shortages?
3. In May a Barkly Regional Council worker was picking up rubbish behind the Elliot Health Clinic when they were pierced by a discarded needle. That Council worker had to wait eight weeks for test results on possible infection. And the rubbish bag the Council worker picked up was full of several needles, including one which appeared to have blood in it as well as prescription medicine boxes with names of patients fully visible. What has been the result of the investigation into the incident?
4. What training is given to health clinic staff about the appropriate disposal of sharps and other sensitive medical materials?