

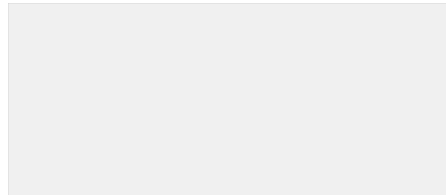
Question No : 231

Question : Dental Health Services - Alice Springs Region

Question Date : 17/11/92

Member : Mr BAILEY

To : MINISTER for HEALTH and COMMUNITY SERVICES



What dental health services are provided by the Department of Health and Community Services to residents in rural and remote areas within the Alice Springs region.

ANSWER

Dental health services provided to residents in rural and remote areas within the Alice Springs Region include school dental services to children and general dental services to adults. These services are provided by rural mobile dentists visiting the various communities.

All children up to school-leaving age in the Northern Territory are entitled to free general-practitioner level dental services provided by the department in either urban or rural areas. Adults holding a health card or disadvantaged by distance from permanent dental facilities are entitled to free general dental treatment provided by the department.

There are 2 rural dentists in the Alice Springs area (soon to be increased to 3) and these provide mobile services on a roster basis to rural and remote communities.

General practitioner services comprise routine dental treatment eg examination, filling, extraction, scaling and polishing.