



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Castley

Addressed to: Mr White

In relation to: CHS Workforce and Occupational Violence

Hearing: 11 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript pp 48-49

Transcript provided: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 21 November 2025

MS CASTLEY: Thank you. Whether people take time off, do you advise people to take time off work after an occupational violence incident?

Ms Zagari: Depends on the nature of the incident.

Mr Aloisi: It depends on the nature of it. Some people are unaware of it, and so we will absolutely in our discussions with that individual see whether they need to know that provision is available for them in terms of leave, but it is an individual discussion, but we would definitely promote the availability of that leave to our staff, particularly when they have been involved in an incident.

MS CASTLEY: So do you agree that staff absence due to occupational violence is a flawed metric for the assessment of whether occupational violence incidents are on the rise?

Ms Zagari: It is not solely a metric for that. So it is true that, similar to workers comp, you do look at lost time indicators as a representative indicator of severity of incident. That is nuanced by the fact that we do now offer OB leave, which was not previously offered. So whether in the piece of work that ministers referred to around strategic and accountability indicators, whether we need to change what we are measuring into total numbers, I think, is part of the consideration this year about is it the right indicator.

MS CASTLEY: And so do we know the absolute number of occupational violence incidents recorded in RiskMan since the pandemic? So, like, do we track that?

Mr White: Since the pandemic?

MS CASTLEY: Yes, per year.

Mr White: Yes. If we are going back since the pandemic, I would take that on notice.

Ms Stephen-Smith MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

Total Occupational Violence Incidents at Canberra Health Services From 1 July 2021 to 10 November 2025				
Financial Year	Physical Occupational Violence	Verbal Occupational Violence	Other	Total
2021-2022	657	509	30	1196
2022-2023	614	625	34	1273
2023-2024	792	937	73	1802
2024-2025	1088	1230	142	2460
YTD*	396	548	74	1018
Total	3547	3849	353	7749

- *YTD includes data from 1 July 2025 – 10 November 2025.
- Data source: Riskman Staff Incident register. Riskman data may be subject to fluctuation.
- Includes North Canberra Hospital Occupational Violence data from FY2024/25 onwards.
- Other category – e.g. Damage to property.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith

Date:

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