



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, AGEING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
CHRIS STEEL MLA (CHAIR), ELIZABETH KICKERT MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), VICKI DUNNE MLA,
CAROLINE LE COUTEUR MLA, MICHAEL PETTERSSON MLA

Inquiry into referred 2016–17 Annual and Financial Reports
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
15 November 2017

Asked by Vicki Dunne:

In relation to: Referrals from Walk in Centres to GPs or Emergency Departments.

MRS DUNNE: There was information in answer to a question on notice that said that, on average, you referred three to four people a day up the medical chain. You do not have the information on the types of conditions or whatever it is that causes you to refer to a GP

Ms Kohlhagen: There are a number of reasons that you would get referred to a GP.

MRS DUNNE: Or accident and emergency.

Ms Kohlhagen: Yes. It may be out of scope or you might need to be further reviewed in several days time. I do not have that level of detail with me at the moment; we would have to get it for you.

MRS DUNNE: I am happy for you to take this on notice

Ms Fitzharris: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

Patients who present to the nurse-led Walk-in Centres (WIC) may be advised to attend a General Practitioner (GP) or Emergency Department (ED), usually because:

- The patient's presentation is out of scope for a nurse and requires the assessment of a doctor; or
- The patient has received appropriate initial assessment and treatment at the WIC but requires follow up with a doctor.
- The patient has initiated treatment with a GP, for continuity of care the patient is referred back to the GP.
- The patient is acutely unwell and requires emergency services.
- The patient is seeking treatment for chronic illness.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health, Ageing and Community Services

Signature:

Date: 2/2/18

By the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, Minister Fitzharris