



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Health

Reference: Health – Canberra Health Services

Hearing: 20 February 2025

In relation to: Alternative Health Practices

Question received: 24 February 2025

Answer Due: 03 March 2025

We're hearing about a move away from providing 'low-value' care in our public system. The GLA:D program is being used in Scandinavia, treating hip and knee osteoarthritis with exercise-based rehabilitation plans rather than through surgery.

1. Will the government be offering this program, or providing any publicly funded physiotherapy or other rehabilitation programs, instead of undertaking knee and/or hip surgeries in our public system?

MINISTER FOR HEALTH: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

ACT Labor committed ahead of the 2020 election to deliver the GLA:D program through our public health system and Canberra Health Services started providing GLA:D in 2021.

The program has expanded and is now provided at the Belconnen, Phillip and Tuggeranong Community Health Centres.

More than 500 people have completed the evidence-based program of exercises and education.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:

Date:

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By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith