



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Mr Johnathan Davis MLA (Chair), Mr James Milligan MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Michael Pettersson MLA

Review of ACT health programs for children and young people

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
2 November 2021**

QToN No - 05

Asked by Mr Milligan on 2 November 2021: Minister Stephen-Smith took on notice the following question(s):

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In relation to: I am interested in, particularly about how children and young people's screening interacts with our walk-in centres.

I am interested in knowing what preventative, or, sort of, first step health screening nurse practitioners in our nurse-led walk-in centres are able to do. And what, if any, policies exist to ensure that young people and their parents or guardians are informed about the possibility of accessing these screenings when they are accessing any kind of health care in the nurse-led walk-in centre.

Minister Stephen-Smith: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The Walk-in Centres (WiCs) provide treatment for minor illness and injury. They do not specifically provide screening. However, given the expertise of our WiC's nurses and their passion for holistic care, if they identified any issues that need further follow up or screening, they would work with the parents to have the child seen in the appropriate service.

In addition, they run a program whereby any child identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, with an indication of ear infections or hearing deficits undergoes a Parent-evaluated Listening and Understanding Measure and Hearing and Talking Scale (PLUM & HATS) screen – a questionnaire checklist. If this screen is positive, the child is booked in for a hearing assessment by the audiology service.

The Maternal and Child Health service provide drop-in clinics for mothers and young children out of the Community Health Centres as well as scheduled development checks and immunisation services.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Signature: 

Date: 16 / 12 / 21

By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA