



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Health

Reference: Health - Canberra Health Services

Hearing: 11 November 2025

In relation to: Aged Care Assessments

Question received: 19 November 2025

Answer Due: 26 November 2025

- 1) How many people are currently waiting for an aged care assessment in Canberra?
- 2) Do you know how long people are waiting for an assessment on average?
- 3) Could you please provide the average number of people in long-term hospital stays waiting for an assessment, per month over the last twenty four months?

MINISTER STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

- 1) As of 31 October 2025, the Canberra Health Services (CHS) Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) had no outstanding hospital assessments, three outstanding simple assessments and no outstanding complex assessments. CHS ACAT is one of three assessment organisations in the ACT and does not have visibility of the total number of people who are currently waiting for an aged care assessment in the ACT.

For further information regarding waiting times, aged care assessment waiting lists are a matter for the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth is responsible for the aged care system, including funding and overseeing assessments and services nationally.

- 2) The Report on Government Services, published by the Productivity Commission, includes information at the national level on the time waited for an aged care assessment. The [Report on Government Services 2025 - Part F Community services](#) references that nationally, in 2023-24, 50 per cent of older people who were referred for an aged care assessment waited up to 22 days to receive an ACAT approval (increasing to 138 days at the 90th percentile). Days waited between referral and ACAT approval have increased from 43 days at the 90th percentile in 2020-21. Data at the jurisdiction level is not published.

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Since the implementation of the Integrated Assessment Tool (IAT) on 1 July 2024, CHS ACAT has successfully met the Commonwealth's Single Assessment System Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for hospital, complex and simple assessments. All assessments are completed within the allocated priority timeframes, including high priority being 10 days, medium priority being 20 days and low priority at 40 days.

During the month of October 2025, 93.3 per cent of all assessments were completed by CHS ACAT within 15 days of referral notification regardless of priority.

- 3) CHS ACAT undertakes in hospital assessments for six public and private hospitals across the ACT. As of 31 October 2025, there were no outstanding hospital assessments and 100 per cent of hospital assessments were completed within their determined priority timeframe of 5-15 days. Irrespective of priority, CHS ACAT would usually complete a hospital assessment within three days of referral.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date:

27 / 11 / 25

By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith