

Response to question on notice

Questions on Notice Paper No 15

6 February 2025

Question No. 840

Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA: To ask the Minister for Health

1. Can the Minister provide the number of patients in nursing-home type hospital stays, that is less than 35 days with no more than a seven-day break and when the patient no longer requires acute care, waiting for an aged care package?
2. Can the Minister provide the average number of patients in nursing-home type hospital stays waiting for an aged care package, per month over the last two years?
3. When someone is a nursing-home type patient in a hospital in Canberra, how long on average (mean days) are they staying in hospital when they're waiting for an aged care package to be available?
4. Can the Minister provide the mean number of nursing-home type patients in hospitals in Canberra waiting for an aged care package, month by month over the last two years?

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

1, 2, 3, 4

The number of hospitalisations (noting this is not unique patients) and the average length of stay for nursing home type care per month for the last two years is provided below.

Note: it is not possible from this dataset to identify whether these patients had an aged care package approval or were waiting an aged care package during their stay.

Table 1: Hospitalisations and average length of stay (days) for nursing home type care (maintenance care) by month, January 2024 to December 2025.

Year Month	Number of hospitalisations	Average length of stay
2024-01	162	18.70
2024-02	219	17.08
2024-03	167	19.19
2024-04	200	19.14
2024-05	202	20.31
2024-06	157	20.58
2024-07	215	19.34
2024-08	186	18.49
2024-09	163	18.71
2024-10	174	21.24
2024-11	176	26.63
2024-12	135	30.72
2025-01	177	23.63
2025-02	157	21.32
2025-03	142	24.30
2025-04	132	26.55
2025-05	172	21.15
2025-06	137	30.31
2025-07	168	27.80
2025-08	137	28.50
2025-09	137	30.51
2025-10	164	27.23
2025-11	135	23.39
2025-12	163	26.80

Source: ACTHCS Enterprise Data Platform, Admitted Patient Care dataset.

Hospitalisations represent distinct episodes of care where the separation date falls within the reference period and does not equal the number of individual patients.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

**Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA
Minister for Health**

Date: 15 / 3 / 26

This response required 6hrs 10mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$657.35.