

Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA

Minister for Health

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Finance

Minister for the Public Service

Member for Kurrajong

RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Questions on Notice Paper No 4

21 MARCH 2025

Question No. 211

MR EMERSON MLA: To ask the Minister for Health

- 1) How many presentations to all ACT hospital emergency departments in 2024 were related to or involved a dental or oral health issue.
- 2) What was the age group breakdown for those presentations referred to in part (1).

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

The ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) is progressing a program of work to develop and publish a metric to publicly report the number of dental presentations to emergency departments. The requested data will be available in the coming months.

I can advise that in 2024, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reported that in the 2022-23 financial year, there were 1,589 hospitalisations in the ACT for dental procedures that were considered potentially preventable by timely and adequate dental care. This equates to a rate of 3.6 hospitalisations per 1,000 population.

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.



Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA
Minister for Health

Date: 27/4/25

This response required 2hrs 0mins to complete, at an approximate cost of \$219.13.

