

JOONDALUP HEALTH CAMPUS — PATIENT TRANSFERS

2557. Hon Ken Travers to the Minister for Transport representing the Minister for Health

In relation to patient transfers from the Joondalup Health Campus (JHC) to other hospitals, I ask —

- (1) In 2008-2009 and 2009-2010, how many patients were transferred?
- (2) Of these, what was the primary reason for the patient transfer?
- (3) Which hospitals were patients transferred to?
- (4) How many patients were transferred because JHC was unable to provide the appropriate level or type of care?
- (5) For 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 financial years, what was the cost of patient transfers?

Hon SIMON O'BRIEN replied:

- (1) In 2008-2009, 649 (or 2%) of public patients admitted to JHC and 798 (or 1.03%) of the Emergency Department (ED) patients who attended the hospital; and in 2009-2010, 718 (or 2%) of the public patients who had been admitted and 815 (or 1.2%) ED attendances.
- (2) Reasons included;
 - conditions which required a level of treatment or facilities that were not available at JHC, (not included in the Clinical Service Framework); or
 - a specialist bed was not available at JHC; or
 - care was available closer to home (step down for post acute care).
- (3) Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Fremantle Hospital, Royal Perth Hospital, King Edward Memorial Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, Shenton Park Rehabilitation, Alma Street Centre, Bentley Adolescent Inpatient Unit, Bunbury Acute Psychiatric Residential Unit, Graylands Hospital, Osborne Park Lodge, Osborne Park Hospital, Bentley Hospital, Swan District Hospital including Swan Adult Mental Health Centre, Marian Centre, Next Step Drug & Alcohol Service, Bunbury Regional Hospital, Geraldton Regional Hospital, Busselton District Hospital, Corrigin District Hospital and Halls Creek District Hospital.
- (4) During these periods JHC transferred the following number of public patients to other public hospitals as JHC did not provide that level of care or care type that the patient required:
In 2008-2009 543 (or 1.7%) of the admitted public patients and 775 (or 1.2%) of ED patients.
In 2009-2010 569 (or 1.7%) of the admitted public patients and 814 (or 1.2%) of the ED attendances.
- (5) Nil, the cost of ambulance transfers is paid by the Operator of JHC