

FIONA STANLEY HOSPITAL — CARDIOTHORACIC SURGERY — WAITLIST

1409. Hon Steve Martin to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to cardiothoracic surgery undertaken at Fiona Stanley Hospital, and I ask:

- (a) how many critical inpatients are currently waiting for surgery; and
- (b) over the last six months, how many patients have been removed from the waitlist due to death occurring before surgery could be performed?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a) Nil.
- (b) Where a patient is removed with a reason code ‘deceased’ the cause of death is unknown to Fiona Stanley Hospital. It is therefore not possible using existing data sources to attribute deaths which occur while a patient is waiting on elective surgery to the underlying condition requiring treatment.