

Budget Estimates Secretariat
Room 812
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

28 August 2025

Amendment of evidence provided at Budget Estimates Hearing 2025-26

Dear Secretariat

I am writing to clarify evidence I provided at Portfolio Committee No.2 Health Budget Estimates Hearing 2025-26 on Friday 22 August 2025.

In my evidence to the Committee on page 43 of the uncorrected transcript I state that:

MURRAY WRIGHT: It could, but I think that with the linking of the prescribing rights to a broader range of clinicians, including the GPs, that education will be about the non-pharmacological treatments that are necessary. There is also talk about having mentoring-type relationships for some of the GPs with the initiation so that they can get advice. I think the desire is not just to open the floodgates and have more prescriptions; it's about providing access to the GPs to appropriate education and support so that they can make more nuanced treatment plans for the people that they're seeing.

The CHAIR: Is my understanding correct that GPs are being compensated for their time to undertake that training?

MURRAY WRIGHT: That is my understanding.

I wish to advise that GPs are not compensated for their time to undertake training; however, training is provided free of charge to members of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine.

For more information, please contact Dr Sarah Khanlari, Medical Advisor, Office of the Deputy Secretary, Population and Public Health, and Chief Health Officer, NSW Ministry of Health.

Yours sincerely

Dr Murray Wright PSM
NSW Chief Psychiatrist, Mental Health Branch
Health System Strategy and Patient Experience Division
NSW Ministry of Health