

Daily Hansard - Uncorrected Copy

House: Legislative Assembly- QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Date: Tuesday, 4 September 2007

Member: **Castrilli, Mr John; McGinty, Mr Jim**

Subject: BUNBURY REGIONAL HOSPITAL - EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

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BUNBURY REGIONAL HOSPITAL - EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

2578. Mr G.M. **Castrilli** to the Minister for **Health**

(1) What has been the average waiting time to see a doctor for people presenting to the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department for the past:

- (a) three months;
- (b) six months; and
- (c) twelve months?

(2) Once admitted, how long, on average, have patients had to wait in the Emergency Department for a bed in another ward at Bunbury Regional Hospital?

(3) How many people, on average, have presented to the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department per week for the past 12 months?

(4) How many FTE doctors are stationed in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department on a weekly basis?

(5) How many doctors are stationed in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department at any given time (minimum and maximum number)?

(6) What is the average shift length of a doctor stationed in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department?

(7) How many doctors are stationed in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department during a regular shift?

(8) On average, how many patients are treated by a single doctor during a regular shift in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department?

(9) How many FTE nurses are stationed in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department on a weekly basis?

(10) What is the average shift length of nursing staff stationed in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department?

(11) How many nursing staff are stationed in the Bunbury Regional Hospital Emergency Department during a regular shift?

Mr J.A. McGINTY replied:

(1) a) Between 01/05/07 - 31/07/07 the average wait to see a doctor at Bunbury Hospital's Emergency Department (ED) was:

Triage 1 Nil

Triage 2 9.12 minutes

Triage 3 33.27 minutes

Triage 4 61.31 minutes

Triage 5 59.16 minutes

b) Between 01/02/07 - 31/07/07 the average wait to see a doctor at Bunbury Hospital's ED was:

Triage 1 Nil

Triage 2 8.57 minutes

Triage 3 33.36 minutes

Triage 4 64.19 minutes

Triage 5 62.74 minutes

c) Between 01/08/06 - 31/07/07 the average wait to see a doctor at Bunbury Hospital's ED was:

Triage 1 Nil

Triage 2 8.37 minutes

Triage 3 31.81 minutes

Triage 4 60.42 minutes

Triage 5 59.79 minutes

(2) The information system used at Bunbury Hospital does not allow recording of the time between admission and leaving the ED. The majority of patients are admitted as soon as the ward staff are ready to receive the patient. There is generally no wait to admitting patients going straight to the ward once the care in ED has been completed.

(3) In the last 12 months 591 people on average per week presented to Bunbury Hospital's ED.

(4) Seventeen full time equivalent medical staff are rostered in the Bunbury Hospital ED on a weekly basis.

(5) The typical staffing pattern at Bunbury Hospital ED is for 3 doctors working the 0800-1800 hours shift, 1 doctor working the 1000-2000 hours shift, 3-4 doctors on evening shift (1300-2300 or 1400-2400 hours) and 2-3 doctors overnight (2230-0830 hours). The lowest planned staffing level is 2-3 doctors on duty (2400-0800) and the maximum is during the early afternoon overlap with up to 8 doctors (1400-1800).

Note: These numbers may at times be affected by staff sickness or other unforeseen circumstances. Figures exclude meal and rest breaks.

(6) All routine medical shifts in ED are 10 hours in length inclusive of an expected minimum 30-minute meal break.

(7) The doctors' shifts are overlapped to provide roster patterns that match patient presentation profiles and award conditions. On average over the last 12 months between 9.5 and 10 doctors have been rostered on clinical duty each 24-hour period.

(8) On average there are approximately 9 patient attendances for each doctor rostered on clinical duty at Bunbury Hospital's ED in a 24-hour period. It should be noted that the number of patients treated by individual doctors varies considerably according to day of week, time of shift and seniority. In addition, a number of patients treated primarily by junior doctors will also be reviewed by senior ED doctors and/or doctors from other specialty areas on a consultative basis. Most admitted patients will be reviewed by the admitting team whilst in ED and this review may be by both junior doctors and specialists.

(9) 18.10 FTE nursing staff are rostered to work in Bunbury Hospital's ED per week as a base roster.

(10) The standard shift for nurses is 8 hours during day and 10 hours at night with an expected 30-minute meal break and other rest breaks.

(11) The number of nurses rostered for the morning shift is four nurses. The number of nurses rostered for the afternoon shift is five nurses. Three nursing staff are rostered for the night duty shift.
