

C333

**QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE  
(Of which some notice has been given)**

**Tuesday, 24 March 2015**

Hon Alanna Clohesy to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

I refer to the Premier's statement in the other place last Thursday that there were 39 cases of Aboriginal children from 10-14 with cases of gonorrhoea and I ask:

1. Of these 39 cases, how many were found in children living in remote communities?
  2. Of these 39 cases, how many were found in children living in towns?
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**I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.**

1-2. The figure of 39 cases of gonorrhoea in 2013 for Aboriginal children aged from 10 to 14 compared to none for non-Aboriginal children is for the Kimberley region. This data has been provided by the Department of Health. There is difficulty in distinguishing cases residing in remote communities vs townships in remote regions because, from the point-of-view of the STI notification data because people who live in small/remote communities often have their addresses recorded as the nearest town (e.g. "via Fitzroy Crossing", "via Halls Creek, etc) or a PO box number based in the post office of the nearest township.

Also, some populations move frequently between towns and small communities so a given address on the case report form does not necessarily constitute the location where they spend most of their time.

The State Government is about to begin a significant reform program regarding remote communities which will focus on better outcomes in health, education, safety and job opportunities for Aboriginal people.

