

WA COUNTRY HEALTH SERVICE — “PILBARA HEALTH PROFILE 2018” REPORT

2794. Hon Robin Chapple to the parliamentary secretary representing the Minister for Health:

I refer to the *Pilbara Health Profile 2018; Planning and Evaluation Unit (November 2018)*, published by the WA Country Health Service, and specifically *Table 9* on page 25; regarding ‘Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations’ for children under 14, and I ask:

- (a) will the Minister please provide a breakdown of the data contained within *Table 9* by towns within the Pilbara Health Profile;
- (b) if no to (a), why not;
- (c) given that the report’s data is for the years 2011 to 2015, does the Department have any more recent data;
- (d) if no to (c), why not;
- (e) if yes to (c), will the Minister please provide that data:
  - (i) in the format given in the report;
  - (ii) by town, within the the Pilbara; and
- (f) if no to (e), why not?

**Hon Alanna Clohesy replied:**

I am advised:

- (a) No.
- (b) The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) does not provide suitable population data for towns, which is required in order to calculate the standardised rate ratio (SRR) as displayed in *Table 9*. In addition, the small number of potentially preventable hospitalisations (PPH) for children aged 0–14 years by condition over the five-year period 2011 to 2015 precludes the further breakdown of this analysis by geographical area.
- (c) Yes. The Department has now provided data for the period 2014 to 2018 in *Table 1*. [See tabled paper no [3716](#).]
- (d) Not applicable.
- (e) (i) Yes, see *Table 1*, with one minor modification relating to the colour shading of the SRR values. An additional category, where local rates are similar to the State rate, has been added (highlighted in blue).  
(ii) No.
- (f) The ABS does not provide suitable population data for towns, which is required in order to calculate the SRR as displayed in *Table 1*. In addition, the small number of PPH for children aged 0–14 years by condition over the five-year period 2014–2018 precludes the further breakdown of this analysis by geographical area.

**Table 1: Leading causes of Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations (PPH) in children aged 0-14 years residing in the Pilbara Region 2014-2018 (Updated Table 9)**

PPH Condition	Number of PPH	% all child PPH	SRR
Dental conditions (acute)	476	25%	0.9
ENT infections (acute)	461	24%	1.5
Cellulitis (acute)	284	15%	3.4
Asthma (chronic)	177	9%	1.8
Convulsions and epilepsy (acute)	142	7%	1.1
Urinary tract infections (acute)	120	6%	1.2
Pneumonia and influenza (vaccine-preventable)	47	2%	1.6
Other vaccine-preventable conditions	43	2%	3.9
Diabetes complications (chronic)	41	2%	1.5
Rheumatic heart disease (chronic)	36	2%	6.5
All Potentially Preventable Hospitalisations (PPH) (0- 14 years)	1914	100%	1.4

Note: The standardised rate ratio (SRR) is the ratio between a particular health region and the State. A ratio of 1 means the regional rate is the same as the State, a value of 2 indicates the regional rate is twice that of the State, and an SRR of 0.5 indicates the rate in a region is half that of the State population.

Note: Local rates are compared to the rate of all residents of the State using the SRR and the 95% confidence interval of the SRR. Those that are significantly different to the State rate (1.0) have black font, and those that are not significantly different to the State or lower than the State have white font. Those between 1 and 1.5 times the State rate are highlighted orange, higher than 1.5 times the State are highlighted red, similar to the State are highlighted in blue while those rates less than the State are highlighted green.