

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

FOR WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION NO. 2031

DATE OF PUBLICATION IN INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER: 30 JUNE 2017
(INTERNAL QUESTION PAPER NO. 24)

Mrs K Jooste (DA) to ask the Minister of Health:

With reference to his reply to question 534 on 8 May 2017, what was the financial cost associated with treating children who were admitted to hospital due to severe acute malnutrition in each of the specified financial years?

NW2246E

REPLY:

The estimated average financial cost per case (based on modelled estimates) of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) with complications is R65,826. The median length of in-patient days for SAM cases with Severe Acute Malnutrition is 30 days (7 days - stabilisation phase and 23 days - rehabilitation phase). The composition of the unit costs includes foodstuffs, medicines and hospital overheads.

Based on this estimated cost, the approximate costs of inpatient care for all children with SAM for the last four financial years are shown in the table below:

Financial years	SAM inpatient admissions	Approximate Costs
2013-14	14,947	R491,950,611
2014-15	15,910	R523,645,830
2015-16	15,537	R511,369,281
2016-17	14,910	R490,732,830

END.