

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### FOR WRITTEN REPLY QUESTION 1447

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#### Mr R Coetzee to ask the Minister of Education:

- (1) Whether her department has any estimates on the number of teachers who are HIV-positive; if so, (a) what are these estimates; and (b) what is the source of these estimates?
- (2) Whether any HIV-positive teachers are currently receiving antiretroviral therapy through the public sector; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, how many?
- (3) How many teachers in each specified age category died during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available?

**N1907E**

#### REPLY:

(1) Yes, in collaboration with the Educator Labour Relations Council, my Department completed a study in September 2005 of educator supply and demand in the public education system that included an assessment of HIV and AIDS prevalence.

(a) Prevalence varied by age and region, and was estimated at 12.7% overall.

(b) *Educator Supply and Demand in the South African Public Education System: Integrated Report* (HSRC Press, 2005), pp. 44-46, 124-129.

(2) Yes, currently there is a union-led educators' programme focusing on prevention, care, treatment and access, through which HIV-positive teachers receive antiretroviral therapy either in the public or private sector. The programme has been funded through PEPFAR since 2005. Beyond this, teachers can receive treatment through public clinics and hospitals, like any other citizens.

(3) *Distribution of AIDS deaths by age in 2004*

Age group	Number of AIDS deaths	Proportion of total AIDS deaths (%)
<24	12	0.3
25-34	1 337	33.6

35-44	1 935	48.7
45-54	587	14.7
>55	105	2.6
Total	3 976	100.0

Source: *Educator Supply and Demand in the South African Public Education System: Integrated Report* (HSRC Press, 2005), p. 49.