

*Question 23 continued*

The homeless are at risk of health problems, e.g., mental problems, malnourishment, alcohol and drug abuse, sexual health. Medicare makes health care accessible but the homeless often do not access it as their health is not deemed as important to them as their immediate need for food and shelter.

Many find themselves homeless due to unemployment. They struggle to find employment due to self-esteem issues, poor education, health, hygiene and appearance, as well as a lack of social support and stigma.

The homeless require access to educational programs that develop self-esteem, employment and life skills. Low self-esteem, poor nutrition, inability to concentrate and lack of finances make it difficult to access these programs, e.g., Centrelink Homeless Outreach Program.

Sense of identity and self-esteem are issues faced by the homeless. They require assistance to deal with these in order to seek the resources available to them and improve their situation.

Many resources and services are available to the homeless by the different tiers of government as well as various charities, but physically accessing the services can be difficult due to the reasons covered above.