

From: Inquiry into Abuse in Disability Services POV eSubmission Form
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Sent: Tuesday, 8 December 2015 9:45 PM
To: FCDC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Services for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Services for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder

Mrs Andrea Bolton
[REDACTED]
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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- The NDIS has not yet been rolled out in our area, so can't comment on this.
- Early Intervention Funding 12,000\$: This money has helped to facilitate OT, Speech and Psychology Treatments, but by mid next year our son will turn 7 and will still require the same amount of services, which we will then have to pay out of pocket with just the Medicare and Private Health gap payments.
- School: My son has Aspergers. He has significant behavioural issues at home, but not at school as he bottles everything up and explodes at home. So he does not get an aide on behavioural grounds. He is high in cognitive thinking, thus once again does not meet the aide criteria. However he has strong sensory and fine motor issues (He has very weak fine motor skills in his hands and needs assistance in writing) along with lack of concentration and organisation skills for which an aide in school would be extremely helpful. But under the current criteria he gets no help other than what the school can provide him as an unfunded child.
- We have explored biomedical supplementation options as his body is inefficient in assimilating and breaking down several nutrients. Cost for the Biomedicine GP and subsequent daily vitamin and mineral supplementation are significant and some additional monetary help here would be very useful. We see the positive impact these supplements have made in the last year.

On the whole there needs to be a lot more funding beyond the early intervention as Aspergers and Autism is a lifelong condition and does not end with 7. With Aspergers/high functioning autism, my son has a good chance to become a fully functioning member of society if his current deficits are being bridged and he gets further treatments. So in the long run every money spent on him now will save the public money later as if he does not get continuous intervention his ability to function in society will be greatly reduced.

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