

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-2011, 25 February 2011

Question: E11-217

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Senator Boyce asked:

Will this project take into account that extra degree of difficulty? [*Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, who are working on behalf of the University of Sydney and the Australian FASD collaboration to develop a diagnostic instrument*].

Answer:

The Australian Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Collaboration (Collaboration) was established by the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research in consultation with the University of Sydney, to develop a screening/diagnostic instrument for FASD. The Collaboration is dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis and management of FASD in Australia.

The Government and the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research recognises the complexities and difficulties in the early diagnosis of FASD and data collection. To assist in addressing these issues, the membership of the Collaboration was extended to individuals with expertise in paediatrics and paediatric research and includes medical practitioners, academics, parents and consumer advocacy.