

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 5

Question No: 151

Topic: Muscular Dystrophy - Early Intervention

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Xenophon asked:

Early intervention (such as physical therapies) for children with muscular dystrophy can vastly improve their long-term outcomes, resulting in a long-term cost benefit to the health system. Is FaHCSIA aware of any research that has been done into possible savings through early intervention in relation to muscular dystrophy?

Will FaHCSIA be doing any work on this in terms of future policy?

Answer:

The Department is aware of literature indicating the benefits of early intervention.

In working on the design of an NDIS with state and territory governments, FaHCSIA will be considering the evidence base for early intervention support for children with disability.