



# "SA Autism Rate Blows Out NDIS"

**MEDIA RELEASE: July 30th, 2015**

The blowout in numbers of children eligible for the NDIS trial in SA means the more severely disabled older kids in the SA Trial cohort (0 – 14 years) will now not come in to the scheme before the trial ends in July 2016.

The SA age cohort was chosen to segway with the different cohort chosen for the Tasmanian trial. The trials were designed to inform full scheme rollout. Now the evaluation of the SA scheme will not include the most disabled 10 -14 year olds.

Rick Morton interviewed IDASA Chair David Holst for this article in The Australian on 27 July

<http://www.disabilityspeaks.com.au/mr/TheAustralian27July2015.pdf>

On Adelaide local radio 891 stalwarts Matt & Dave interviewed Dr David Caudrey, Executive Director, Disability SA on the matter:

[http://blogs.abc.net.au/sa/2015/07/breakfast-reloaded-2772015.html?site=adelaide&program=adelaide\\_breakfast](http://blogs.abc.net.au/sa/2015/07/breakfast-reloaded-2772015.html?site=adelaide&program=adelaide_breakfast)

Sadly the SA scheme has been rolled out akin to rolling out a new health scheme to all those waiting in Emergency, some of whom would be better served elsewhere, and then when the funding has been fully expended remembering there is a group of people in the High Dependency Ward that need continuous, reliable services.

It now seems the only way the most severely disabled children eligible for the SA Trial can be accommodated is for the federal government to inject some of the funds they have been stockpiling through the increased Medicare levy for over 12 months.

An injection of these funds and scrutiny of the eligibility criteria would ensure there are no delays to full scheme roll out in July 2016.

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