Re: Psychiatric Funding and the Proposed drugging of babies and toddlers.

This psychiatric proposal is, once again, a breach of public trust in the medical profession and in Government.

Psychiatry's 'symptoms' for the so called psychiatric disorders in a 0 to 3 year old include such behaviour as; irregular feeding patterns, difficulty sleeping, whining, crying, calling for absent parent, separation or stranger anxiety, temper tantrums, shyness, sleeping with the light on and hyperactivity. REALLY? Any such symptoms describe the normal behaviour of any cognizant human being aged 0 to 3.

At present, in Australia, over 101,200 children under 17 are on antidepressants with a further 107,000 children, in 2017, on ADHD medication. Australia's drug regulatory agency has issued 67 psychiatric warnings with 7 of these warning against suicidal behaviour connected to antidepressants. It's worth noting that NONE of these antidepressants are approved for use in children under 18 for depression, yet they are prescribed and used. Since 2008/09 suicides in young people had increased by almost 40%, concurrent with the use of antidepressants increasing by 60% amongst the young.

Instead of Psychiatry lobbying for more funding they'd best spend more time and effort coming up with actual scientific criteria in diagnosis which might then lead to real outcomes for young people rather than broad scale addiction and harm currently generated so as to satisfy the insatiable greed of Pharmaceutical companies and the material fetishes of psychiatrists.
Any responsible Government would not be party to it.

Sincerely,
Royce Dunn