

23/01/20

The Australian Productivity Commission

Dear Commissioners,

I wish express my grave concern to finding out that in 2007/08: 201 children under 3 years old on psychiatric drugs, including 53 aged younger than 1.

In 2015: 7,817 2-6 year olds on antidepressants, antipsychotics and "ADHD" drugs.

1,768 adverse drug reaction reports for antidepressants and antipsychotics in Australia involve those aged 0-19 and include 14 deaths.

Yet we continue to validate that this is a worthwhile investment.

As a business man, father I am appalled the report opens the door to screening questions that are so subjective that any child is put at risk of being labelled mentally disordered, with a percentage recommended for psychiatric drugs. For example, symptoms for mental disorders in 0 - 3 year olds include: difficulty sleeping, tantrums, losing track of a favourite stuffed animal and hyperactivity.

Where is the science in this? And more importantly – Where are the results?

I do not support this

Regards

Paul Chapman