

**Submission
No 13**

**IMPROVING ACCESS TO EARLY CHILDHOOD HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT
CHECKS**

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Genetic diagnosis is crucial in the process for children with developmental delay being able to access appropriate services and supports.

The genetic services for the children of Western Sydney LHD delivered by the team at Children's Hospital at Westmead. This population include some of our most vulnerable children and families, who have limited access to private services.

Currently our waitlist for non acute referrals is 1-3 years.

Delay in accessing genetic services, results in delayed diagnosis and delay in access to early intervention, targeted care and future reproductive planning.

This will have a direct impact on school readiness.

The situation is even more dire in Western NSW, which is also served by Clinical Genetics at CHW.