



# Success Story

## Autism Detection in Early Childhood - ADEC™

### The Technology

Flinders University researchers have discovered methods that diagnose Autism in early childhood. An Autistic disorder is often not diagnosed until children are three or four years of age. Early diagnosis is important because research shows that children are most responsive to intervention in the early years - particularly before the age of three. The ADEC describes 16 specific behaviours. If a child fails to demonstrate these behaviours by 18 months to two years of age, it may lead to consideration of an early diagnosis of Autism. The ADEC is used by psychologists to assess Autism in infants. Autism spectrum disorders are a significant global issue with annual health costs in Australia alone estimated at between \$4.5 and \$7.2 billion annually (2007).

### Our Partners

- Australian Council for Educational Research (AUS)
- Brookes Publishing Inc. (US)
- Granada Learning (UK)
- Ingenio (Singapore)

### Research Team

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