

Puberty Blockers Study Results Withheld by NIH Researcher

hile some Americans might be aware of the early December letter sent by six Republican U.S. senators to the National Institutes of Health demanding the agency provide Congress with information related to a controversial taxpayer-funded study on transgender children; what they may not know is the study's cost has grown to nearly \$10 million and was funded through Fauci's NIH to administer puberty blockers to two cohorts of children, one older and one younger, to study the physical and psychosocial impact of puberty blockers. Dr. Johanna Olson-Kennedy, one of the researchers working on the project, recently admitted to withholding the results of the younger cohort's results because she believed it would be weaponized to advocate against the use of puberty blockers.

While the results of the study have not been released to the public, recipients of NIH grants are required to submit progress reports to the agency regarding the state of their research. According to a copy of a letter obtained by the Washington Examiner, Sens. Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Tommy Tuberville (R-AL), Ted Cruz (R-TX), James Lankford (R-OK), Markwayne Mullin (R-OK), and Mike Lee (R-UT) have asked the NIH to turn over each annual progress report provided to the agency by researchers working on the project.

"While we recognize that this particular study is observational, we remain concerned that minors lack the ability to fully understand the lifelong outcomes of the interventions studied in this project and provide their consent," the senators wrote. "Further, taxpayers have the right to know the outcomes of the research they fund, particularly when the intervention studied has life-altering impacts."



And that is exactly the point. Puberty blockers and trans surgeries have life-altering impacts that cannot be reversed. Yet our judicial system who will not try a juvenal as an adult because their brains are not fully formed, will allow a minor and the state, to decide on life-altering treatments and surgeries.

Olson-Kennedy, an ardent proponent of performing gender-transition procedures on minors, said she decided to withhold the results of her study after it was found that providing young children with puberty blockers did not improve their mental health. The researcher argued that the children's mental health did not improve because they began at a high baseline — however, an earlier description of the cohort said that a quarter were either depressed or suicidal before the study began. Two children involved in the

study also took their own lives.

"I do not want our work to be weaponized," she said, promising that the data would be released at some point. "It has to be exactly on point, clear and concise. And that takes time."

Since 2015, the project's cost has grown to \$9.7 million.

In their letter, the senators point to a similar instance in the United Kingdom where researchers delayed the publication of a study that failed to show puberty blockers improving the mental health of transgender children. Once the results of the British study were made public, and following an independent review, the country's National Health Service decided to stop providing children with puberty blockers. T