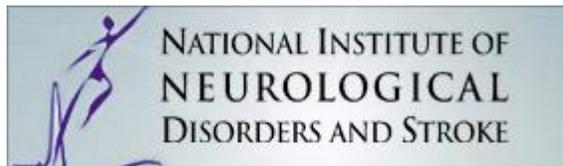


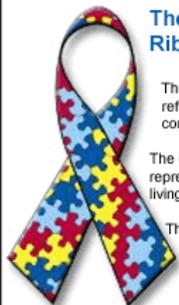
What is an Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a range of complex neurodevelopment disorders, characterized by social impairments, communication difficulties, and restricted, repetitive, and stereotyped patterns of behavior. Although ASD varies significantly in character and severity, it occurs in all ethnic and socioeconomic groups and affects every age group.



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The Autism Awareness Ribbon:

The puzzle pattern of this ribbon reflects the mystery and complexity of autism.

The different colours and shapes represent the diversity of those living with this disorder.

The brightness of the ribbon signals hope - hope through research and increasing awareness in people like you.

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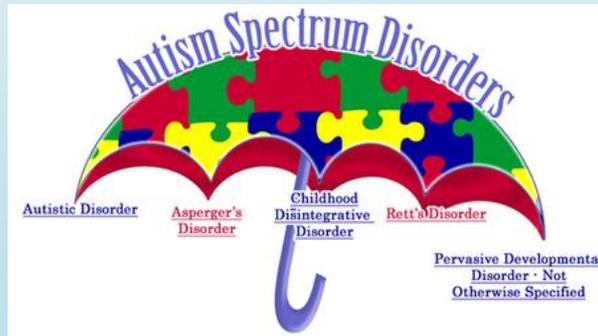
**My child has autism.
How can therapy help?**

How can therapy help my child with autism?

- Reinforce use of eye contact
- Teach appropriate communication of wants and needs to replace problem behaviors
- Develop alternative means of communication for children who are non-verbal
- Develop a better understanding of social rules and expectations
- Improve fine and gross motor skills
- Improve understanding of nonliteral language
- Assess sensory needs and implement strategies for home use
- Develop appropriate play skills
- Help child to explore new interests and activities
- Assess and improve balance, coordination, and strength

Individualized Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapies

Autism is a spectrum disorder; no two children with autism will have the same strengths and needs! ASD may be diagnosed by your child's physician, psychologist, or AAEC (Approved Autism Evaluation Center). Therapy is focused on using your child's skills to address areas of challenge.



Your physician may use any of the above terms to describe a child who has ASD.

Where can I learn more?

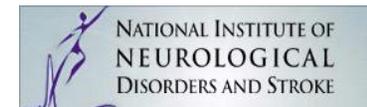


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