

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Support Canadians by providing biomedical and behavioural treatment information to help those affected by autism;
- Expand health care professionals' knowledge and awareness of autism as a treatable illness affecting the whole body;
- Work to influence policy within governments to provide public health initiatives and policy change;
- Enable research into the causes and treatments for autism.

"Autism Canada has helped our family find resources and treatments that have helped our son and made autism treatment a life changing journey rather than a life sentence."

ANITA & BILL SHIN | **PARENTS**

"Autism Canada is a shining star for parents. There IS hope! Our kids CAN recover! Parents and doctors need to know that Autism is treatable!"

NATALIE GEHRKEN | **PARENT**



AUTISM CANADA
FOUNDATION

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IS THIS YOUR CHILD?

AVOIDS EYE CONTACT

SEEMS TO IGNORE YOU

PREFERS TO PLAY ALONE

HAS EXCESSIVE TANTRUMS

HAS POOR SPEECH OR 'LOSES' WORDS

DEMONSTRATES LIMITED PRETEND PLAY

HAS REPETITIVE & UNUSUAL BEHAVIOUR

HAS CHRONIC DIARRHEA OR CONSTIPATION

DOES NOT 'SHOW YOU' OR 'POINT TO' OBJECTS

WHAT IS AUTISM

Autism is a complex neurobiological disorder and is part of a group of disorders known as Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Autism is a whole-body disorder which impacts normal brain development leaving most individuals with communication problems, difficulty with typical social interactions and a tendency to repeat specific patterns of behaviour. There is also a markedly restricted repertoire of activity and interests. Individuals on the autism spectrum tend to have varying degrees and combinations of symptoms.

CHARACTERISITICS

Avoids eye contact | Seems to ignore you | Prefers to play alone | Has excessive tantrums | Has poor speech or 'loses' words | Demonstrates limited pretend play | Has repetitive & unusual behaviour | Has chronic diarrhea or constipation | Does not 'show you' or 'point to' objects



If your child has some of these symptoms and is between 18 and 36 months of age, he or she may be showing early signs of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

If you suspect your child may have ASD, consult a physician specializing in developmental disorders immediately.

The incidence of Autism Spectrum Disorder is at epidemic proportions and is currently diagnosed in up to 1 in 110 children.



TREATMENTS & THERAPIES

Each individual will benefit from a holistic or broad-based approach drawing upon various treatments and therapies unique to his/her symptoms and abilities. The following are some of the treatments and therapies currently used to manage or eliminate the symptoms of Autism Spectrum Disorders:

DISORDERS WITHIN THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

- Pervasive Development Disorder (PDD)
- Rett's Disorder
- Autistic Disorder
- Childhood Disintegrative Disorder
- Asperger's Disorder

BIOMEDICAL TREATMENTS

- Dietary Intervention
- Nutritional Supplements
- Detoxification
- Immune System Treatments
- Medication

EDUCATIONAL & MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

- Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA)
- TEACCH
- Floortime
- Son Rise/Options Institute
- Miller Method
- Relationship Development Intervention

COMMUNICATION THERAPIES

- Picture Exchange Communication
- Verbal Behaviour
- Signed Speech
- Social Stories
- Facilitated Communication

SENSORY, MIND & BODY THERAPIES

- Sensory Integration
- Auditory Integration
- Vision Therapy
- HANDLE
- Music Therapy
- Cranial Sacral Therapy
- Chiropractic
- Occupational Therapy

OTHER THERAPIES

- Homeopathy
- Acupuncture
- Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy

