

Definition, Epidemiology, Etiology, and Clinical Assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorder

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Abstract: *The neuro developmental illness known as autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is typified by difficulties with social communication, limited interests, and repetitive activities. In light of current worries about rising prevalence, this article aims to clarify the variables that could affect prevalence rates, such as modifications to the diagnostic standards. The authors list the variables that are correlated with the risk of ASD and discuss the data supporting the theory that ASD is a neurobiological illness influenced by both genetic and environmental factors impacting the developing brain. In conclusion, the paper outlines the steps involved in a clinical evaluation, starting with developmental screening and concluding with a referral for a final diagnosis and screening recommendations for co-occurring diseases*

Keywords: Autism spectrum disorder (ASD); prevalence; etiology; screening; evaluation; medical comorbidity