



OT Lens: Un Paso
A La Vez

Autism Spectrum Disorder



WHAT IS AUTISM?

Autism spectrum disorder, also known as ASD, is a neurological condition that impacts social interactions, social communication, skill development, and repetitive behaviors (5th ed.; DSM-5; American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

In the U.S., children ranging from the ages 4 to 8 have a 1.70% and 1.85% prevalence of getting diagnosed with ASD, whereas 1 in 100 children are diagnosed worldwide (Baoum et al., 2022).

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Many children will demonstrate early signs of ASD as early as 18 months of age and, in some cases, others until the age of 4 years (Baoum et al., 2022)

- Echolalia (Verbal repetition of meaningless words)
- Speech delays
- Hand flapping
- Poor comprehension of communication, emotions, and stimuli
- Fixation on activities or stimuli



REFERENCES

American Psychiatric Association. (2013). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (5th ed.). <https://doi.org/10.1176/appi.books.9780890425596>

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