



OT Lens: Un Paso
A La Vez

Case Study and Example

CASE STUDY

Mario is a 3-year-old boy who lives with his parents. Mario's parents, Lucia and Luis, are first-time parents with a strong religious and cultural background. Mario does not respond when his name is called, flaps his hands up and down when excited, and does not attempt to self-feed by bringing finger-eating foods to his mouth. Lucia and Luis have been asked by friends and church members with 3-year-old children regarding Mario's behaviors and development. He often gets compared to other children, but Lucia gets upset and argues with Luis when Mario's behaviors are brought up, as his parents feel judged and stressed. Lucia's family has told her that nothing is wrong with Mario and that his time to talk will come. Luis has told Lucia several times that they should seek help and advice from healthcare professionals, but Lucia walks away, or ends the conversation when he brings it up.

EXAMPLE

It is common for families to experience internalized emotions of denial, stress, and isolation (Cohen & Miguel, 2018). Taking the first steps in receiving a diagnosis can be difficult, especially of stigma and fear of judgment. However, once a diagnosis is obtained, it can help your child receive the therapy services that can facilitate functional independence and meeting developmental milestones.



REFERENCES

Cohen, S. R., & Miguel, J. (2018). Amor and social stigma: ASD beliefs among immigrant Mexican parents. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 48(6), 1995–2009.

****Please consult a licensed occupational therapist or healthcare practitioner for more information. ****



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