



All About AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder?

Autism (ASD) is a neurological and developmental disorder that affects how people interact with others, communicate, learn, & behave.

Why is it called a Spectrum Disorder?



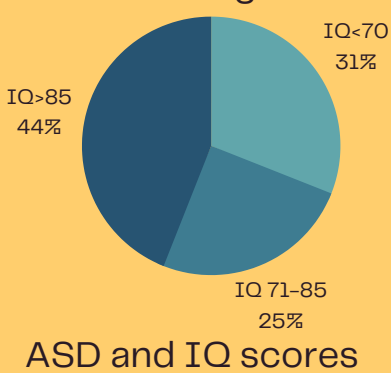
Autism is a spectrum disorder because there is wide variation in the type and severity of symptoms people experience

Prevalence Rates of ASD

1 in 44 children are diagnosed with ASD at age 8



Boys are 4x more likely to be diagnosed with ASD than girls



ASD and IQ scores



ASD among historically marginalized communities are diagnosed later & less often

Symptoms of ASD



Communication difficulties

Restricted interests



Repetitive behaviors



Delayed language skills



Delayed cognitive or learning skills



Difficulties with social interaction



Delayed movement skills



Causes and Risk Factors of ASD

There is no known single cause for ASD, but studies suggest an interaction among:



Environment



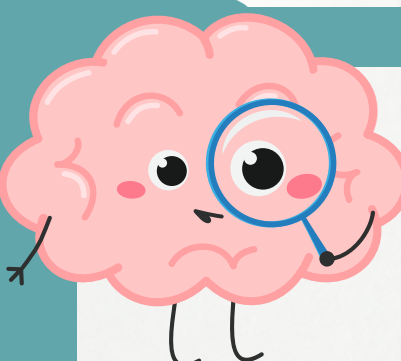
Genetics



Biology

Diagnosis and Treatment of ASD

ASD can be diagnosed or detected by an evaluation of a child's behavior & development at 18 months old or younger



Behavioral or Psychological



Medication



Educational

ASD treatment plans are comprehensive and support the child in various ways

Learn more about children's mental health at www.mygoodbrain.org

