



INDIAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Chapter of Neurodevelopmental Pediatrics



Detect Early Autism

Autism is a condition that affects three critical areas of development: Social, Communication and Cognition leading to impairment in all these areas. An early diagnosis and appropriate training can show significant progress in the child's development.

1 Does not look towards pointed direction



Child may not follow pointing gestures shown by others and may not look at the object that's been pointed.

2 Does not share



Child may not comprehend the joy of sharing. He does not give or handover. Does not point.

3 Does not imitate your actions



May not follow the actions or gestures shown to them.

4



Does not smile back or smiles less

Does not smile back/when smiled at; smiles less

5



Avoids Eye Contact

Makes no eye contact and looks away when trying to do so

6



No response to picking up gesture or name call

Does not respond to picking up gesture. They do not seek to be hugged or caressed.

7



Prefers to be alone

Prefers not to mingle/play with others.

For 18 months or above infants

1 2 3 are the crucial signs which are noticeable in a child with autism



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◀ Detect Autism Early

For children of 36 months and above



1 Aloof in manner

Child stays withdrawn and does not interact or play with other children. They tend to spend time being alone.



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5

Restricted / repetitive attachment to objects

Child may appear to be attached to certain toys or other objects. These attachments may seem inappropriate at times.



2 Appears deaf sometimes

Child does not respond when addressed or called.



6

Exhibits unusual behaviour

For instance, hand flapping or twisting, rocking, swaying, walking on tip-toes.



3

Uses adult's hand to indicate matter of interest

Takes an adult's help to indicate a desired object, but 'mechanically' or without an interaction / eye-contact

7

Prefers not to be touched, hugged or cuddled

Sometimes feels uncomfortable and prefers not to be hugged or touched by people.



4

Avoids eye contact

Child may avoid eye contact with the people interacting with them.



9

May not respond to "normal" teaching methods

The conventional teaching methods are not effective on the child's development

10

Peculiar / Special Skills

Performs certain peculiar activities or showcase special skills, such as single word reading, music, art, puzzles, memory or calculations.

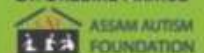


8 Lacks imaginative play

Play is often solitary and passive and not creative (e.g. kitchen set, doctor patient etc.)



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