

HANDS In Autism

Indiana University-School of Medicine

Autism Spectrum Disorder: Misconceptions & Facts

www.HANDSinAutism.iupui.edu



HANDS in Autism® Interdisciplinary Training & Resource Center

1130W Michigan Street
Fesler Hall, Suite 302
Indianapolis, IN 46202

HANDSinAutism.iupui.edu
hands@iupui.edu
(317) 274-2675

Also, check out...

How-To Series
Kid's Corner Series
Life with ASD Series
Academia Series
Strategy in Practice
e-Learning Options
Practical Pointers for Families,
Educators, or Medical
Professionals

Stay in touch via our listserv
and Learning Connection!










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Misconceptions

-  Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is an emotional problem.
-  Individuals can be affected by ASD or another disorder, but they cannot be affected by multiple disorders.
-  ASD occurs more often in people with high incomes and higher levels of education.
-  ASD can be cured.
-  Individuals with ASD do not become attached or show affection to others.
-  All children with ASD have savant abilities in specific areas.
-  The occurrence of ASD is equal between boys and girls.

Facts

-  ASD is a neurodevelopmental disorder that affects social communication and social interaction as well as behaviors, interests, and activities.
-  It is common for ASD to co-occur with other developmental, psychiatric, neurologic, chromosomal, and/or genetic diagnoses.
-  ASD affects individuals of all races, ethnicities, social classes, lifestyles, and educational backgrounds equally.
-  ASD cannot be cured; however, there are many treatment options that enable individuals with ASD to compensate for areas of challenge.
-  Individuals with ASD may demonstrate attachment or affectionate behaviors to parents and/or caregivers; however, such attachment or affection may be on the individual's own terms or expressed in a manner that is different from what society would typically expect.
-  Individuals with ASD often have individual strengths and weaknesses across academic and functional areas; however, few individuals with ASD have savant abilities.
-  ASD is more common in boys than girls with 1 in 54 boys being affected in comparison to 1 in 252 girls or approximately 5 boys to every 1 girl receiving an ASD diagnosis.



NOTICE SIGNS OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER IN YOUR CHILD?

6 STEPS TO TAKE

1. GET AN EVALUATION

- Set up an appointment for your child with a psychiatrist, psychologist, developmental pediatrician, or a pediatric neurologist specializing in ASD



2. ASSESS INSURANCE

- Review your insurance policies & coverage
- Apply for Medicaid waiver (if applicable)



3. EDUCATE YOURSELF

- Gather information about the diagnosis, treatment options, rights & regulations



4. ESTABLISH A SUPPORT NETWORK

- Get in touch with policy and advocacy agencies
- Find a local support network
- Remember that your family/friends are there for you



5. MAINTAIN GOOD RECORDS

- Create a binder with information about your child (diagnosis, assessment results, conversation and meeting logs, IEPs and BIPs, if applicable)



6. BE AN ADVOCATE

- Advocate for your child at school, medical offices, and in the community



See on the reverse how HANDS in Autism® can help you!



HANDS in Autism®

AUTISM RESOURCES REFERENCE GUIDE



INFORMATION ABOUT AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)

American Academy of Pediatrics

aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/Committees-Councils-Sections/Council-on-Children-with-Disabilities/Pages/Autism.aspx

Autism Society of America

(800) 328-8476 | autism-society.org/about-autism

Autism Speaks

English (888) 288-4762 | Español (888) 772-9050
autismspeaks.org

Autism Speaks Autism Safety Project

autismspeaks.org/family-services/autism-safety-project

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

(800) 232-4636 | TTY: (888) 232-6348
cdc.gov/nchdd/autism

First Signs ●

firstsigns.org

Indiana Institute on Disability & Community

(812) 855-6508 | iids.indiana.edu

Information Network ▲

IndianaNetwork.org

MedlinePlus by the NIH (National Institutes of Health)

(888) FIND-NLM (346-3656) | nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus

National Autism Center

(877) 313-3833 | nationalautismcenter.org

National Institute of Child Health & Human Development

(800) 370-2943 | TTY: (888) 320-6342
nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/autism/Pages/default.aspx

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

(866) 615-6464 | TTY: (866) 415-8051
nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/autism-spectrum-disorders-asd/index.shtml

National Professional Development Center on ASD

autismpdc.fog.unc.edu



ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT

About Special Kids (ASK) ▲

(317) 257-8683 | (800) 964-4746
aboutspeakids.org

ASK Resource Directory ▲

aboutspeakids.org/Directory.aspx

Answers for Autism

(800) 449-0560 | answersautism.org

Autism Society of Indiana ▲

(800) 609-8449 | autismsocietyofindiana.org

Autism Resource Network of Indiana (ARNI) ▲

autismsocietyofindiana.org/resources

Easterseals Crossroads

(317) 466-1000 | eastersealscrossroads.org

Family Voices Indiana ▲

(844) F2F-INFO (844-323-4636) | fvindiana.org

IN Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health

(866) 247-8457 | indianafamilies.org

Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities

(317) 232-7770 | ic.gov/gpcpd ▲

Indiana Institute on Disability & Community ▲

(812) 855-6508 | iids.indiana.edu

Center on Community Living and Careers ■

iids.indiana.edu/pages/cclc

Indiana Resource Center for Autism (IRCA) ◆

iids.indiana.edu/irca ◆

Indiana Secondary Transition Resource Center ■

812-855-6508 | instrc.indiana.edu

IN*Source (Indiana Resource Center for Families with Special Needs) ◆

(574) 234-7101 | (800) 332-4433 | insource.org

MAAP Services

maapservices.org

Mental Health America of Indiana

(800) 555-MHA | mhai.net

National Alliance of Mental Illness (NAMI) - Indiana

(800) 677-6142 | nam.indiana.org

● Early Intervention

◆ School Age

■ Transition/Adult

▲ Lifespan

HANDS IN AUTISM® INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING & RESOURCE CENTER



ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT (CONT.)

Self-Advocates of Indiana
(317) 977-2375 | sa-ind.org



The Arc of Indiana ▲
(317) 977-2375 | (800) 382-9100 | arcind.org
↳ **Insurance Advocacy Resource Center (INARC)** ▲
800-382-9100 | arcind.org/our-programs/insurance-advocacy-resource-center



EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Association for Behavior Analysis International
(269) 492-9310 | abainternational.org



HANDS in Autism® Interdisciplinary Training & Resource Center ▲
(317) 274-2675 | handsinautism.iupui.edu
↳ **Local Community Cadres** ▲
HANDSInAutism.iupui.edu/lcc.html

Indiana Department of Education ♦●

(317) 232-6610 | doe.in.gov/special
↳ **Indiana Resource Network**
doe.in.gov/special/indiana-resource-network
↳ **Academic Standards**
doe.in.gov/standards
↳ **Diploma Requirements**
doe.in.gov/ccr/indianas-diploma-requirements
↳ **Navigating the Course**
doe.in.gov/special/laws-rules-and-interpretations

Interactive Autism Network (IAN)
iancommunity.org

Organization for Autism Research (OAR)
(866) 366-9710 | researchautism.org

SAMHSA's National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs & Practices
(877) 726-4727 | samhsa.gov/nrepp

The Council for Exceptional Children ♦●
(888) 232-7733 | TTY: (866) 915-5000 | cec.sped.org

What Works Clearinghouse
(202) 245-6940 | ies.ed.gov/ncep/wwc/FWW

The resources contained within this handout are intended as general information on national and state-wide resources only and should not be deemed as comprehensive or as an endorsement of any specific resource.



ADAPTATIONS, TECHNOLOGY, & SAFETY

Automotive Safety Program
800-543-6227 | preventinjury.org

Indiana Assistive Technology Act (INDATA)
(888) 466-1314 | eas:ersealstech.com

PATINS Project ▲
patinsproject.com
↳ **Indiana Center for Accessible Materials**
patinsproject.com/icam/icam

Safety Store at Riley Hospital
(317) 944-5000
rileychildrens.org/support-services/safety-store



LEGISLATION & LAWS

Indiana Disability Rights
(800) 622-4845 | (317) 722-5555 | in.gov/idr

Wrightslaw | wrightslaw.com



PROVIDER & FAMILY SUPPORT RESOURCE DIRECTORIES

Autism Navigator
(844) 427-3457 | autisnavigator.com

Family and Social Services Administration
in.gov/fssa

↳ **Blind & Visually Impaired Services**
in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2638.htm
↳ **Bureau of Developmental Disabilities** ▲
in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2639.htm
↳ **Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services**
in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2637.htm
↳ **Division of Mental Health & Addiction**
Indiana's System of Care (INSOC)
in.gov/fssa/dmha/2754.htm
↳ **Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services** ▲
in.gov/fssa/2328.htm
↳ **Division Of Family Resources**
in.gov/fssa/2407.htm
↳ **First Steps (Indiana)** ●
(800) 441-STEP | in.gov/fssa/4655.htm
↳ **Office Of Early Childhood & Out Of School Learning**
in.gov/fssa/2552.htm ●
↳ **Vocational Rehabilitation Services** ■
in.gov/fssa/ddrs/2636.htm

Indiana Department of Insurance ▲
in.gov/idoi

Indiana Department of Workforce Development
in.gov/cwd/

Facilities

<https://www.damar.org/>

<https://handsinautism.iupui.edu/>

<https://www.easterseals.com/>