

Talking with Parents about Autism Spectrum Disorders

Appropriate Screening and Diagnostic Tools for Young Children (Birth to Age Five) with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs)

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Screening tools listed below are among the most widely used instruments for identifying infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who may be exhibiting characteristics consistent with an autism spectrum disorder and should be referred for a comprehensive evaluation.

Many other screening tools can be effective in identifying behaviors potentially associated with ASDs when administered by qualified examiners with input from family members and other caregivers or preschool teachers (see selected resources).

*Ages and Stages Questionnaires ASQ-3, Third Edition (2009)
Bricker, Squires, Mounts, Potter, Nickel, & Raffell
Paul Brookes Publishing Co.
Ages: 4-60 months

*Ages and Stages Questionnaire-Social Emotional (ASQ-SE) (2002)
Squires, Bricker, & Twombly
Paul Brookes Publishing Co.
Ages: 6-60 months

Autism Diagnostic Interview – Revised ADI-R (1994)
Lord, C., Ritter, M., & LeCourteur, A.
Western Psychological Services.
Ages: 12 months and older

Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule-Revised ADOS-R (1999)
Lord, C., Ritter, M., Di Lavorre, P., & Risi, S.
Western Psychological Services.
Ages: 12 months and older

*Autism Screening Instrument for Educational Planning Second Edition (ASIEP-2) Autism Behavior Checklist ABC (1993)
Krug, D., Arick, J. & Almond, P.
Pro-Ed Publishers
Ages: 18 months to adults

*The Brief Infant-Toddler Social & Emotional Assessment BITSEA (2005)
Briggs-Gowan, M. & Carter, A.
Pearson Education, Inc.
12 to 36 months

*Childhood Autism Rating Scale (CARS) (1988)
Schopler, E., Reichler, R., & Renner, B.
American Guidance Service
Ages: 2 years and older

Communication and Symbolic Behavior Scales (CSBS) – Infant-Toddler Checklist (1993)
Wetherby, A.M., & Prizant, B.
Paul H Brookes Publishing
http://www.brookespublishing.com/store/books/wetherby-csbsd/CSBSDP_Checklist.pdf
Ages: 6 to 24 months

*Gilliam Autism Rating Scale: Second Edition GARS-2 (2006)
James Gilliam
Pro-Ed Publishers
3 to 22 years

The Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT) (1999) (In multiple languages)
And M-CHAT Follow-up Interview (2008)
Robins, D., Fein, D., & Barton, M.
http://www2.gsu.edu/~psydlr/Diana_L_Robins_Ph.D.html
Ages: 18-24 months

*Pervasive Developmental Disorders Screening Test PDDST (2001)
Bryna Siegel
University of California, San Francisco
<http://www.co-brass.com/pddsii.pdf>
Ages: 12-24 months

*Screening Tool for Autism in Toddlers and Young Children (STAT)
(2009)
Stone & Ousley
Vanderbilt Kennedy Center
Ages: 24-36 months

Social Communication Questionnaire SCQ (formerly Autism Screening Questionnaire ASQ)
(1999)
Rutter, Bailey, & Lord
Western Psychological Services
Ages: 4 to adult

*Social Responsiveness Scale (SRS) (2005)
Constantino, & Gruber)
Western Psychological Services
Ages: 4 to 18

*Temperament and Atypical Behavior Scale TABS Screener (1999)
Bagnato, Neisworth, Salvia, & Hunt
Paul H. Brookes Publishing
11-71 months

* Available from KITS Early Childhood Resource Center <http://www.kskits.org/ecrc/>

Selected Resources

California Department of Developmental Services (2002) *Autism Spectrum Disorders: Best Practice Guidelines for Screening, Diagnosis, and Assessment*. Author.
http://www.ddhealthinfo.org/documents/ASD_Best_Practice.pdf

Johnson, C.P., & Myers, S.M. and the Council on Children with Disabilities (2007) Identification and evaluation of children with autism spectrum disorders. *Pediatrics*, 120:5, 1183-1215. AAP Policy paper also published online:
<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/autism.cfm>

Ringwald, M. (2008) Developmental screening and assessment instruments with an emphasis on social and emotional development for young children ages birth through five. National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)
<http://www.nectac.org/~pdfs/pubs/screening.pdf>

State of Washington. *Specialized Screening Tools for Infants and Toddlers*.
<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/word/adsa/iteip/SpecialScreen.doc>.

Swanson, J., Raab, M., Roper, N., & Dunst, C. (2006) Promoting young children's participation in interest-based everyday learning activities. *CASE tools: Instruments and procedures for implementing early childhood and family support practices, Vol.2, No. 5*. J. Iverson Riddle Development Center, Morganton, NC: Family and Infant Preschool Program. http://www.fippcase.org/casetools/casetools_vol2_no5.pdf

