

## Signs and Symptoms of Autism Spectrum Disorders

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) begin before the age of 3 and last throughout a person's life, although symptoms may improve over time. Some children with an ASD show hints of future problems within the first few months of life. In others, symptoms might not show up until 24 months or later. Some children with an ASD seem to develop normally until around 18 to 24 months of age and then they stop gaining new skills, or they lose the skills they once had.

A person with an ASD might:

- Inconsistently respond to their name by 12 months
- Show difficulty pointing at objects to show interest (pointing at an airplane flying over) by 14 months
- Have difficulty playing "pretend" games (pretend to "feed" a doll) by 18 months
- Avoid eye contact and want to be alone
- Have trouble understanding other people's feelings or talking about their own feelings
- Have delayed speech and language skills
- Repeat words or phrases over and over (echolalia)
- Give unrelated answers to questions
- Get upset by minor changes
- Have obsessive interests
- Flap their hands, rock their body, or spin in circles
- Have unusual reactions to the way things sound, smell, taste, look, or feel

Information from http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/facts.html

## How can I find a provider to perform a diagnostic evaluation for my child?

If you have concerns about a child's development or would like additional information about Autism Spectrum Disorders please contact:



#### **Autism Society of Wisconsin**

1477 Kenwood Drive Menasha, WI 54952 Phone: 920-558-4602 WI only: Toll-free 1-888-4-AUTISM (1-888-428-8476)

www.asw4autism.org Email at: asw@asw4autism.org



Northeast Regional Center for Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs:

325 N. Commercial St. Suite 400 Neenah, WI 54956 Toll free: 877-568-5205

www.northeastregionalcenter.org Email at: inforNERC@chw.org

This resource is provided by the Northeast Regional Core Team and the Northeast Regional Center for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) through the Wisconsin Connections Initiative on Autism Spectrum Disorder and other Developmental Disabilities. An electronic version of this resource can be found at www.northeastregionalcenter.org. Updated 07/05/2013

# Key Resources for Parents

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) Northeast Wisconsin



### Where can I go for Support?

**Autism Society of Wisconsin** – There are many local support groups located throughout Northeastern Wisconsin. Call the Autism Society of Wisconsin to find a local support group near you.

1-888-428-8476 www.asw4autism.org

#### Parent to Parent of Wisconsin - Provides

parent matching through a statewide network of families who support each other on the journey of parenting children with special health care needs. 1-888-266-0028 www.p2pwi.org

## The Northeast Regional Center for Children and Youth with Special Health

**Care Needs** – Staff are available to help assist you and your family find the resources you need. You can also access a free lending library of books, DVDs and videos online. 1-877-568-5205

www.northeastregionalcenter.org

# Where can I find more information about treatment options?

#### The National institute of Mental Health

http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/a-parents-guide-to-autism-spectrum-disorder/how-isasd-treated.shtml

#### **Autism Speaks**

http://www.autismspeaks.org/whattodo/index.php

#### **Autism Society**

http://www.autism-society.org/living-with-autism/treatment-options/

## Who can I call for information about possible funding sources for autism treatment?

Contact your private insurance company to determine what services are covered through your insurance. Also call the number listed below for your county and ask for someone who can give you more information about autism services through the Children's Long Term Support (CLTS) waiver:

Brown County (920)448-7884 Calumet County (920)849-1400 Door County (920)746-2345 Fond du Lac County (920)929-3919 Green Lake County (920)294-4070 Kewaunee County (920)487-7252 Manitowoc County (920)683-4230 Marinette County (715)732-7700 Marquette County (920)730-1354 Menominee County (715)799-3861 Oconto County (920)834-7019 Outagamie County (920)730-1354 Shawano County (715)526-5547 Sheboygan County (920)459-3794 Waupaca County (715)258-6350

**Waushara County** (920)730-1354 **Winnebago County** (920)236-4803

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