



IPA 2

MODULE 1

Basic and advanced knowledge on autism



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INDEX

Social communication

Limited stereotypical interests

Heterogeneity

Co-occurring conditions

Developmental changes

**AUTISM
SPECTRUM
DISORDER-DIAGNOSTIC
CRITERIA**

Deficits in social communication and social interaction

Restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interest, or activities

Symptoms must be preset in early developmental period

Symptoms cause significant impairments of current functioning

**Clinical manifestation are not better explained by
intellectual disability**

WORTH TO KNOW

- All people with autism have difficulties in social-communication and stereotyped behavior.
- There is no symptom specific only to autism.
- There are not two individuals on the spectrum with completely same symptoms, or support needs profile.
- Currently there is no reliable biomarker for autism spectrum

**DEFICITS IN
SOCIAL
COMMUNICATION
AND SOCIAL
INTERACTION**

**Difficulties in social-emotional
reciprocity**

**Deficits in non-verbal
communication**

**Deficits in developing and
maintaining relationships**

DIFFICULTIES IN SOCIAL - EMOTIONAL RECIPROCITY (EXAMPLES)

- Inability to interact appropriately with other people
- Difficulties in initiating communication and responding appropriately to other people's communication attempts
- Reduced sharing of interests or emotions
- Unusual social approach

DEFICITS IN NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION (EXAMPLES)

- Difficulties in making and maintaining eye contact
- Altered facial expression (rare expression of emotions, insufficient connection of facial expressions with directed gaze and atypical reaction to other people's emotional expression)
- Difficulties in understanding and use of gestures and body language
- The absence of imperative pointing (using the index finger in order to obtain the desired object) and declarative pointing (using the index finger to share attention with another person)

DEFICITS IN DEVELOPING, MAINTAINING AND UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS (EXAMPLES)

- Adjusting one's own behavior to various social contexts
- No interest in peers or difficulties in maintaining friendships
- Difficulties in sharing imaginative play
- Difficulties in developing and maintaining romantic relationships

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