



1115 Bethel Road, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor 43220 Phone (614) 538-0353

*Above all else, guard your heart, for out of it flows the Wellspring of life.*

*Proverbs 4:23*

## MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES

### Autism

#### *Potential Symptoms / Causes*

- A. A total of six (or more) items from (1), (2), and (3), with at least two from (1), and one each from (2) and (3):
1. qualitative impairment in social interaction, as manifested by at least two of the following:
    - a. marked impairment in the use of multiple nonverbal behaviors such as eye-to-eye gaze, facial expression, body postures, and gestures to regulate social interaction
    - b. failure to develop peer relationships appropriate to developmental level
    - c. a lack of spontaneous seeking to share enjoyment, interests, or achievements with other people (e.g., by a lack of showing, bringing, or pointing out objects of interest)
    - d. lack of social or emotional reciprocity
  2. qualitative impairments in communication as manifested by at least one of the following:
    - a. delay in, or total lack of, the development of spoken language (not accompanied by an attempt to compensate through alternative modes of communication such as gesture or mime)
    - b. in individuals with adequate speech, marked impairment in the ability to initiate or sustain a conversation with others
    - c. stereotyped and repetitive use of language or idiosyncratic language
    - d. lack of varied, spontaneous make-believe play or social imitative play appropriate to developmental level
  3. restricted repetitive and stereotyped patterns of behavior, interests, and activities, as manifested by at least one of the following:
    - a. encompassing preoccupation with one or more stereotyped and restricted patterns of interest that is abnormal either in intensity or focus



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- b. apparently inflexible adherence to specific, nonfunctional routines or rituals
  - c. stereotyped and repetitive motor mannerisms (e.g., hand or finger flapping or twisting, or complex whole-body movements)
  - d. persistent preoccupation with parts of objects
- B. Delays or abnormal functioning in at least one of the following areas, with onset prior to age 3 years: (1) social interaction, (2) language as used in social communication, or (3) symbolic or imaginative play.
- C. The disturbance is not better accounted for by Rett's Disorder or Childhood Disintegrative Disorder.

### *Alternative Causes*

Other Pervasive Developmental Disorders; Rett's Disorder; Childhood Disintegrative Disorder; Asperger's Disorder; Schizophrenia; Selective Mutism; Expressive Language Disorder; Mixed Receptive-Expressive Language Disorder; Mental Retardation; Stereotypic Movement Habit Disorder.