autism SOS

SOCIAL AVOIDANCE
OBSESSION & REPETITION
SPEECH DELAYS

SEE SIGNALS? START SCREENING.

Autism is never simple to diagnose. But many doctors define it by looking at 3 broad groups of warning signals.

Your child's behavior may be a call for help. If you notice these behaviors, speak to your pediatrician right away about screening for autism.

SOCIAL AVOIDANCE

AT 12–18 MONTHS, SIGNALS MAY INCLUDE:

- More interest in objects than people
- Not giving or returning eye contact
- Not mimicking you or following your lead when playing
- Not wanting to be touched, cuddled, or picked up

AT 18–24 MONTHS, SIGNALS MAY INCLUDE:

- Not wanting to play with you or other children
- Disliking being touched
- Not understanding or responding to emotional cues, smiles, or expressions

OBSESSION & REPETITION

AT 12–18 MONTHS, SIGNALS MAY INCLUDE:

- Looking at their hands or rolling an object over and over
- Staring at objects or visual patterns for long periods

AT 18–24 MONTHS, SIGNALS MAY INCLUDE:

- Rocking, hand flapping, or other repetitive movements
- Obsession with unusual or spinning objects
- A strong need for sameness, order, or routine
- Getting upset by loud sounds, harsh textures, or other sensory disruptions

SPEECH DELAYS

AT 12–18 MONTHS, SIGNALS MAY INCLUDE:

- Not saying vowels and consonants together for sounds like "ba ba," "da da," or "ta ta"
- Not pointing, reaching, or making sounds to try to communicate
- Not responding to their name

AT 18–24 MONTHS, SIGNALS MAY INCLUDE:

- No 2-word phrases by age 2
- Repeating things over and over without intending to communicate
- Not understanding simple statements or questions

EARLY INTERVENTION STARTS WITH YOU.

Research shows that early intervention can be extremely effective in improving or reversing traits most associated with autism.

Speak to your child's pediatrician or visit autismSOS.org to learn more.

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