



Facts About Autism

Prevalence:

- Affects 1 in 36 children
- Doesn't discriminate: impacts all nationalities, races, and genders

Characteristics:

- Developmental disability appearing before age 3, often lifelong
- Presents with social communication and interaction difficulties (e.g., understanding sarcasm, maintaining eye contact).
- Restricted/repetitive behaviors/interests (e.g., routines, fixations).
- Diverse strengths and potential in areas like art, music, or technology.

Early Intervention:

- Requires individually tailored services based on needs and learning styles.

Additional Information:

- No current medical detection or cure, but early diagnosis and intervention are key.
- Parental behavior doesn't cause autism.
- Common co-occurring conditions include allergies, epilepsy, and sensory processing issues.
- Children with autism have a higher risk of drowning.
- Many adults with autism successfully live and work independently with support.
- Neurodiverse workplaces benefit from innovation, talent retention, and unique perspectives.

Read more at "[*30 Facts to Know About Autism Spectrum Disorder*](#)," from Massachusetts General Hospital, Mass General for Children.