

Final Note

Autism is a pattern of abnormal development that unfolds over time. It is easy to miss the important clues to the underlying impairments if one relies solely upon observation of the individual's behaviour in the unfamiliar surroundings of a clinic. Diagnosis depends upon obtaining a detailed developmental history from the parents and a careful assessment of the individual's skills and disabilities. Time taken to listen to the parents' story with attention and interest gives a real understanding of the individual and helps to establish the foundation for a good relationship with the family.

References

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A publication list and bibliography are available from:

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