

## **Autism**

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Autism is a condition presenting in early childhood characterized by marked abnormalities in communication and social interactions as well as a restricted and socially atypical range of interests. The absence of abnormalities in the first 30 months of life rules out autistic disorder using contemporary criteria. Individuals with later onset of symptoms consistent with autistic disorder pervasive developmental disorder. Many parents report normal development in their child until the age of 2 years before noticing the deficits in the social and communicative skills.