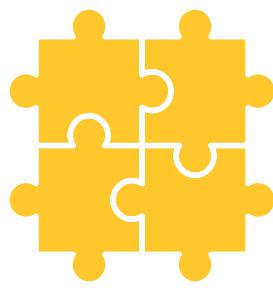




Weill Cornell Medicine

Celebrate Autism Acceptance



April is Autism Acceptance Month, also known as Autism Awareness Month.

Learn the facts about autism to help raise awareness and increase acceptance of people living with autism.

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

Autism, also called autism spectrum disorder or ASD, is a condition affecting brain development.

People with autism have:

- Challenges with communication, relationships and social interactions
- Repetitive or restricted behaviors or interests

To be diagnosed with autism, symptoms must interfere with a person's everyday life.



AUTISM AFFECTS EVERY COMMUNITY

People of every gender, ethnicity, race, religion and socioeconomic group can have autism.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network:

- About 1 in 36 children have autism
- For every girl diagnosed with autism, four boys are diagnosed

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends autism screening for all children at 18 and 24 months old.

Other common characteristics of people with autism include:

- Anxiety or excessive worry
- Delayed language, learning or movement skills
- Increased or decreased sensitivity to sights, sounds, tastes or textures

People with autism show signs of the condition before age 3. However, some people aren't diagnosed until adulthood.

The Autism Society reports more than 4 in 10 people with autism have average to above-average intelligence.



Learn how Weill Cornell Medicine child development specialists support children with autism at weillcornell.org/services/child-development-program.



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