

# **Autism Spectrum Disorder:**



- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a complex developmental disability.
- Signs typically appear during early childhood and affect a person's ability to communicate, and interact with others.
- ASD is defined by a certain set of behaviours and is a "spectrum condition" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees.
- Autism appears to have its roots in very early brain development. However, the most obvious signs of autism and symptoms of autism tend to emerge between 2 and 3 years of age.

### **How Common is ASD?**

- Autism is much more common than many people think.
- More than 10,00,000 cases per year in India with ASD
- Currently 1,00,00,000 people are suffering in India.
- Every 2-6 children out of every 1000 have Autism.
- More than 35,00,000 Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder
- There are around 7,00,000 people in the UK living with autism
- Autism is one of the fastest-growing developmental disorders in the world.
- About 1 percent of the world population has autism spectrum disorder.
- Boys are nearly four times more likely than girls to have autism

## **What Causes Autism?**

The exact cause of autism is not known, though recent research indicates that it could be a combination of genetic and environmental factors.

#### **Symptoms:**

- Some of the behaviours associated with autism include delayed learning of language; Difficulty making eye contact or holding a conversation; Difficulty with executive functioning, which relates to reasoning and planning; Narrow, intense interests; Poor motor skills' and sensory sensitivities.
- A person on the spectrum might follow many of these behaviours or just a few, or many others besides.



#### **Diagnosis and Management:**

There is no medical detection or cure for autism

- The diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder is applied based on analysis of all behaviours and their severity.
- Increased awareness and early diagnosis/intervention and access to appropriate services/supports lead to significantly improved outcomes.

#### **Red Flags:**

The following "red flags" may indicate your child is at risk for an autism spectrum disorder. If your child exhibits any of the following, please don't delay in asking your paediatrician or family doctor for an evaluation:

- No big smiles or other warm, joyful expressions by six months or thereafter
- No back-and-forth sharing of sounds, smiles or other facial expressions by nine months
- No babbling by 12 months
- No back-and-forth gestures such as pointing, showing, reaching or waving by 12 months
- No words by 16 months
- No meaningful, two-word phrases (not including imitating or repeating) by 24 months
- Any loss of speech, babbling or social skills at any age

## **IDC** (Isha Developmental Center):

IDC is one of the Pioneer Therapy centre for kids with Autism in Vadodara. We have been working for kids with Autism since last 20 years.

The 'Developmental and Rehabilitation Department' at Isha Hospital has multi-disciplinary team of doctors and therapists including developmental Paediatrician, Consulting Neuro-paediatrician, Paediatric psychologist, Behaviour Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Speech Therapist, Physical therapist and Special educator. IDC is one of the best Therapeutic center for kids with Autism and other developmental disabilities.



With this Multi-disciplinary treatment approach for children with Neuro developmental and Intellectual disability including conditions like Cerebral Palsy and Autism in IDC we provide:

- Detail Assessment for kids under Spectrum
- Occupational Therapy
- Sensory Integration Therapy
- Behaviour Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Remedial Education
- Group Therapy
- **Aquatic Therapy**
- Physical Therapy and Parent counselling for Kids under Autism Spectrum Disorder.

**IDC** (Isha Developmental Center) provides supportive care to about 25 such children each day.

## Our dynamic team of IDC consists of:

Dr. Parul Valia (Developmental Paediatrician)

Dr. Unatti Bhatt ( Paediatric Physiotherapist )

Dr. Nisarg Pathak (ABA Therapist)

Dr. Ronak Pandit (Child Psychologist)

Dr. Birwa Jain (Consulting Physiotherapist)

Supriti Bhattacharya (Speech Therapist)

Dr. Meera Zaveri (Occupational Therapist)

Dr. Mithila Panchal (Occupational Therapist)

Damini Shrimali

Khushboo Rana

Divya Dodiya

Khushbu Desai

Dhara Panchmatiya

Janki Upadhyay

Riddhi Dodiya

Hetvi Shah

Nasreen

