



Kalitheerthalkuppam, Madagadipet, Puducherry- 605107

The official podcast of SMVMCH

Name of Resource person: Dr. A. Arul Kumaran

Podcast Title: Diagnosis & Screening of Autism

Department: Paediatrics

Category: (Select relevant category)
Students

TRANSCRIPT

Good morning everyone

I am Dr.Arulkumaran, Professor of Paediatrics Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College & Hospital. As a part of World Autism Awareness Day and this April month is Autism Awareness month. We will just look into the symptoms of Autism in children. It is better to be aware of the symptoms so that it will be helpful in diagnosing Autism earlier. Autism symptoms can be diagnosed by just remember the Mnemonic **Autism** itself.

A - stands for avoids eye contact Autism child do not have proper eye contact while speaking and they do not respond to their name when called.

U – Uses gestures infrequently gestures like say bye bye, ta ta or high-five or even saying good morning, good afternoon all this will be very less.

T – Talks late and talks less these children do not have a language development appropriate for the age both receptive and expressive language will be less and even non-verbal communication is less. Non verbal communication means they don't use even they own hands to point out to the objects they want, instead they use the other persons hand and points towards objects by going near to the objects they want so it is very very less .while speaking also they use frequently words which are used by others. Echolalia is one of the important symptoms observed in Autism children. Echolalia means if you ask their name what is your name? they will respond by saying what is your name? Instead of responding correctly to the questions asked. So the language development is very less and late.

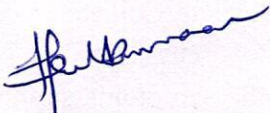
I –They usually Isolates themselves and keep aloof. They usually like only monotonous play. They play with the same toys they dismantable again they joint back, again they mantle. They don't like imaginative place and they don't like to play with other children.

S- Sharing of the interest with others are very very less. If they complete a task usually they children will share with the mother or any of the relatives but these children usually don't share any of the achievements that they are doing.

M- Movements that are repetitive and prolonged, usually they do abnormal movements like rocking of the body or flicking of the hands, going up and down the stairs or tip toe talking. These kind of movements are often repetitive for even hours together.

These are common symptoms of **AUTISM** so basically by remembering these symptoms we will be able to diagnose autism. All symptoms may not be present in all children, it is a spectrum disorder. Autism can be diagnosis only based on the symptoms and not by any blood test so its better that all children should undergo a screening test called as M-chat (modified checklist for Autism in Toddlers) which is a set of 20 questions based on the symptoms with Yes or No answers. A score of more than 8 there is greater risk for developing Autism. A score of less than 3 is lower risk. All children must undergo this screening at 18 months and repeated at 24 months of age which will help in diagnosing Autism early.

Thank you



Signature of the Resource Person

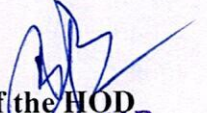
Dr. A. ARULKUMARAN

Regd. No: 66924

PROFESSOR

DEPARTMENT OF PAEDIATRICS

Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College & Hospital
Kalitheerthalkuppam, Madagadipet, Puducherry-605107.



Signature of the HOD

Dr. T. BHARATH KUMAR

Regd. No: 75119

PROFESSOR & HEAD

Department of Pediatrics

Sri Manakula Vinayagar Medical College & Hospital
Kalitheerthalkuppam, Madagadipet,
Puducherry-605107.