

Michigan Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) *Resources for Providers*

Post Identification Guide for Providers: Education & Treatment Referral for Young Children with ASD



Overview

Finding out a child has ASD can be a difficult experience for families. Your support is crucial, and effective communication to families can answer many potential questions and help them identify clear next steps. You can help by:

- Ensuring that comorbid conditions are identified and addressed.
- Emphasizing family participation in treatment and support from the beginning.
- Explaining that treatment will help their child reach his or her full potential. Avoid making negative long-term predictions or stating that treatment will 'fix' the child.
- Helping families focus on accepting and enjoying their child, while pursuing interventions and services that work for the family as a whole.
- Working together with parents and caregivers to set goals for growth through family assistance and professional interventions.

Evidence Based Interventions

It is important for families to seek and find the best resources that will result in positive outcomes since there is an overwhelming amount of treatment information. It is important that families are guided to evidence based care for ASD and that professionals have the ability to assist in this process.

Evidence based practices for young children with ASD according to the [National Professional Development Center](#) (NPDC) of ASD:

- Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) / Behavioral Interventions
- Naturalistic Interventions
- Communication/Language Interventions
- Peer-Mediated Intervention and Social Skills Training
- Antecedent-Based Intervention (Prevention and Environmental Modifications)
- Parent-Implemented Intervention & Training (e.g. [Project Impact](#))

Find details, clickable links and more information at:

www.michigan.gov/autism

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Resources for Providers

Many resources and services are available to families. However knowing where to find the information and services can be overwhelming. It is imperative that families are guided to evidence-based information and care as soon as possible in order to have the most positive opportunities and outcome.

Important Referral Information for Providers to Share with Families:

School Services

- [Early On](#)® (birth through age 3): Early On website or call 1-800-EARLY ON
- [Build Up Michigan](#) (ages 3 through 5): Link to Build up Michigan or call your [Child Find Coordinator](#) or call the Michigan Special Education Information Line at 1-888-320-8384
- [Local school district for early childhood services](#) (age 3 and up): call the local school district's special education office and/or the school's principal

Behaviorally-Based Interventions: Be specific about the child's needs and your recommendations such as intensive Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) or focal behavioral intervention. Note: Home and clinic services are available through Medicaid, some private insurance, and private pay.

Support Services

- [Autism Alliance of Michigan](#) (AAOM) Navigator Program: navigator@aaomi.org / 877-463-AAOM
- Parent mentoring and learning for school services, [Michigan Alliance for Families](#) (MAF) website for local contacts or call 800-552-4821
- Parent advocacy and legal assistance for disability services, [Michigan Protection & Advocacy Services](#) (MPAS) at 800-288-5923 or [Arc Michigan](#) at call 800-292-7851
- Local parent support group referral
- Michigan Autism Council: [After a Diagnosis Information Guide](#)
- [Autism Speaks Toolkits](#)

Medical & Allied Health Care

- Continue with general pediatrician monitoring and request parental consent to send the evaluation report to the child's pediatrician for coordinated care
- Address any focal medical issues (e.g., sleeping, feeding)
- Neurology & Psychiatric referral if needed
- Ancillary health supports as needed per evaluation data, including speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Note: These services often require preauthorization and families may need a prescription from the pediatrician to access care
- Counseling, including individual, parent, or family therapy

Resource for Evaluators: Autism Speaks - [The Clinician's Guide to Providing Effective Feedback to Families Affected by Autism](#)



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Use this template to provide specific local resources:

Local School Services
Intermediate School District:
District Special Education Services:
<i>Early On</i> [®] :
Other:
Local Behaviorally-Based Service Providers
Private Insurance(s):
Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan(s) / Medicaid:
Medicaid Health Plan(s):
Local Support Services
Parent Group(s):
Advocacy:
Play groups:
Other:
Local Medical & Allied Health Care
Neurology:
Psychiatric:
Primary Care/Pediatrician(s):
Specialist(s):
Ancillary Health Supports:
Local Other (<i>Local Resources, etc.</i>)

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