
AUTISM AWARENESS



INTRODUCTION

This template has been selected to create a pitch for a radio show. Information included will be based on the lack of knowledge in society surrounding the Autism Spectrum Disorder. My main topic of discussion will cover the signs, symptoms, impacts and management of people with autism. My decision on this topic has been considered because i feel more awareness should be made available, all over the world.

SESSION ONE

Hello everybody, thank you tuning in to my talk show. I feel privileged to be the host of such a powerful topic of discussion. I would firstly, like to ask the management to accept my offer to educate the community, and also raise awareness on Autism Spectrum Disorder(ASD). This is very passionate to me, as my son has recently been diagnosed with autism. Statics from (WHO,2021) have proven 1 in 100 children suffer with this disorder, many individuals are not aware of the day to day challenges they face. I believe, if autism was more recognized in society then there would be less stigma and stereotypes against people who are diagnosed with the condition. After all, everyone deserve the right to be treated equally regardless of their mental capacity (GOV.UK,2013).

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

Autism is a condition that children are born with or develop in their early years (NHS.UK, 2019). To this date this main cause has never been found, even though extensive research has been conducted. However, many factors which contribute to the signs have been reported. For example, delayed speech, lack of interaction with others, not being able to express feelings, repetitive and challenging behaviours. The following symptoms may also been displayed; sensitivity to certain noises and scents, different ways of thinking, and anxiety.

If any parents or caregivers are concerned with any of these signs or symptoms, I would advice you to seek professional help as soon as possible. The early interventions

IMPACTS OF AUTISM

SESSION TWO

This session, i would like to discuss the impacts of living with autism. Many families with a person who has been diagnosed with autism live in fear, stress and worry. This makes me so sad knowing how hard the condition can be to live with. According to a study published on (The Guardian.com, 2021) seventy-four percent of parents stated their child's needs are not met at mainstream school. Autistic children require a different approach, due to their brain processing information different to others(NHS.UK, 2019), because of this they fall under the category as special educational needs. Children are often left waiting over three years for school support. Something needs to be done to accommodate the needs of autistic people. Their lives are stressful enough with dealing with the day to day challenges. For example, Social awkwardness, lacking empathy and obsessive behaviour. these impacts often leave them feeling not good enough, frustrated and ashamed.

THE CAUSES OF AUTISM

Autism is a complex condition. the main cause has proven difficult to find. however research suggests there are many factors that can cause the condition.

I understand many parents wanting to know why their child is autistic. however, it is important not to feel guilty or at fault about the diagnosis. For instance; low birth weight or premature birth could be the possible cause, but these are also things that are beyond your control. Further research has suggested a link between family genes. Older parents at the time of conception has also be identified as a contribution to the causes (OU, LIU,SHEN,XIA,ZHAO, 2019).

Being a parent is very hard, especially when your child has complex needs. Many families face higher stress levels due to the complexity of autism (HUANG, YEN AND CHEN, 2014}. What is most important is to support your child the best you can, but in the meantime remember you are important to. Seek help if you not coping or ask a friend or other family members to give you a break. Remember you need to look after yourself first, otherwise how do you expect to care for others.

Management and Intervention

To enable families to move forward in a positive way, I believe we need to be patient during the process of managing this disorder. Overall, most suffers deal with communication barriers on a daily basis. Some may not do very well with change. Both management and interventions will include additional use of services. Although most caregivers will be keen to get the help available, this may not be the case for the child as they may feel anxious .

Living with their condition has some effects on their emotional and social behaviour. For example, limited interaction, Environmental factors such as, noise or certain smells and social anxiety.

Applied behaviour analysis (ABA) is the best form of treatment for Autism. This platform involves the child working alongside a therapist to examine the cause of their behaviours and prevent them from re-occurring. ABA therapy is also beneficial to caregivers because they can learn new ways on how to deal with the challenges they face. Before any work is done, assessments need to be completed as this will determine the level of needs required.

The use of different techniques and positive praise have proven to be useful (childautism. org.uk, 2020). It is important to be consistent, communicate at a level of understanding and most of all, be positive!. It is quite common for people to focus on the negative effects. This is the last thing anyone needs. Having a Autism diagnosis does not mean you cannot move forward and achieve great things. Teach our children, they are unique and deserve to be successful just like others. Being Autistic is just a difference in the way of thinking. Individuals deserve the right to live with being labelled or seen as a bad person. Lets help our children feel valuable, to enable them to reach their full potential(childsavers.org, 2021).

Together, we can raise awareness. Improve skills of our children by helping them to have determination and go for what they want in life.

I hope you have found my show useful. thank-you all for taking the time out to log in. I truly appreciate your time.
Many thanks, Cheryl Codner (1920974)