



Putting the Pieces Together: Autism

Presentation for the GCRL Science Café'
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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI.



Autism: Definition, Diagnosis, and Brief History

1. Neurobiologically-based disorder with no known specific cause or cure
2. Diagnosis based upon presence and interpretation of behavioral markers known as the “triad of impairments”
3. 1943 - First attempt at defining the disorder by Dr. Leo Kanner
4. 1980 – Autism is defined for the first time in the DSM-III as a Pervasive Developmental Disorder
5. 1990 – Autism becomes a separate category of disability in the IDEA
6. 2013 - New definition for the disorder in the DSM-V?



Autism Spectrum Disorder

1. Autistic Disorder
2. Asperger Disorder
3. Pervasive Developmental Disorder-Not Otherwise Specified
4. Rett's Disorder
5. Childhood Disintegrative Disorder



Prevalence

1. CDC reports a prevalence rate of 1:110
 - a. 1:70 boys
 - b. 1:340 girls
2. American Psychiatric Association = 1:91
3. A recent study conducted in South Korea reported a prevalence rate of 1:38
4. Most recent MDE data
 - a. 2,160 out of 459,000 students
 - b. 1:317
 - c. A 368% increase in the past decade?



Response to Autism

1. IDEA-mandated services
2. Comprehensive Treatment Programs versus Focal Interventions
3. Pharmacological, Educational plus 382 other interventions
4. Combating Autism Act
5. Mississippi Autism Advisory Committee
6. MDE sponsored Autism Project at USM-Gulf Coast



AUTISM PROJECT



Thank You for Attending!

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