

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF  
CHILD & ADOLESCENT  
PSYCHIATRY

W W W . A A C A P . O R G

**Clinical Essentials on Autism Spectrum Disorder in Children and Adolescents**

**Course Design:** 3 modules (videos) tailored to the course learning objectives, followed by a 20-question post-test.

**Learning Objectives:** At the conclusion of this continuing medical educational activity, the participant will be able to:

1. Assess core *DSM-5* criteria through interview, exam, and screening measures.
2. Explain the practical application of clinical genetic testing in autism spectrum disorder in everyday practice.
3. Describe the various evidence-based behavioral interventions for the treatment of core autism spectrum disorder symptoms.
4. Discuss the evaluation of psychiatric and behavioral conditions in autism spectrum disorder.
5. Analyze the evidence-based literature on psychopharmacological interventions for psychiatric and behavioral conditions in autism spectrum disorder.

*Content Outline and Speakers:*

**Module 1: Prevalence, assessment and diagnosis, and genetic testing**

Topics covered:

- Diagnosis, prevalence, genetics, and risk factors
- Sex differences, racial disparities, and gender variance
- Assessment challenges in ADHD, especially with adolescents

*Speakers:* From AACAP's 2019 66th Annual Meeting: Latasha S. Woods, MD; From AACAP's 2020 Virtual Meeting: Gagan Joshi, MD; From AACAP's 2021 68th Annual Meeting: John N. Constantino, MD; M. Frampton Gwynette, MD; Rebecca Muhle, MD, PhD

## **Module 2: Behavioral interventions for core ASD symptoms and associated comorbidities**

Topics covered:

- Early interventions for ASD, including applied behavior analysis (ABA), social skills, pivotal response treatment (PRT), early intensive behavioral intervention (EIBI)
- Disruptive behavior and anxiety
- Using technology to enhance treatment
- Transition planning

*Speakers:* From AACAP's 2019 66th Annual Meeting: M. Frampton Gwynette, MD; From AACAP's 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting: M. Frampton Gwynette, MD; Amy Keefer, PhD; Natasha Marrus, MD, PhD; From AACAP's 2021 68th Annual Meeting: Karen Bearss, PhD

## **Module 3: Assessment and treatment of co-occurring psychiatric conditions in ASD**

Topics covered:

- Treatment of comorbid psychiatric disorders and irritability
- Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) and preliminary data on other medications for anxiety
- Emerging treatments and controversial issues

*Speakers:* From AACAP's 2019 66th Annual Meeting: Gagan Joshi, MD; From AACAP's 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting: Ernest Pedapati, MD, MS; From AACAP's 2021 68th Annual Meeting: Janice L. Forster, MD; Gagan Joshi, MD; Joshua Smith, MD; Robyn P. Thom, MD; Roma Vasa, MD; Jeremy Veenstra-VanderWeele, MD; Timothy E. Wilens, MD; Ashok P. Yerramsetti, MD; Amy Yule, MD