

Conveying information to siblings and other relatives

Conveying information to sisters, brothers and other relatives is an important part of communication following assessment. This material can be used to support this work. It can also be used as support material when responding to municipal bodies (primary care services).



Availability

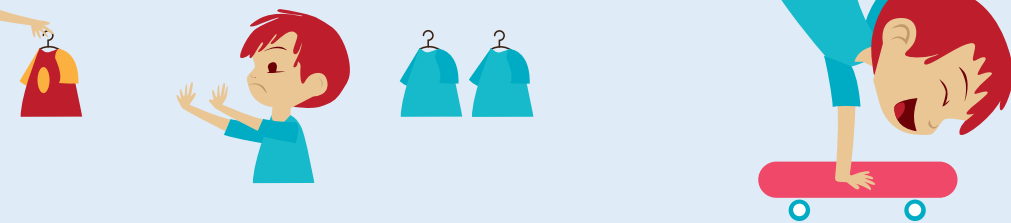
The autism banner can be sent free of charge to healthcare personnel in South-Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority who are responsible for assessing and diagnosing autism spectrum disorders.

The material is also available to others within the South-Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority area for NOK 200 including postage.

The autism banner and accompanying materials can be downloaded free of charge from the RKT website:
oslo-universitetssykehus.no/rktaatn

@ post.rkt@ous-hf.no

✉ Oslo University Hospital, Ullevål
Regional Resource Centre for Autism,
ADHD, Tourette's Syndrome and Narcolepsy
PO Box 4956 Nydalen
NO-0424 Oslo, Norway



© Oslo University Hospital/Regional Resource Centre for Autism, ADHD, Tourette's Syndrome and Narcolepsy.
Any use of the graphics other than in the supplied materials must be by prior agreement.

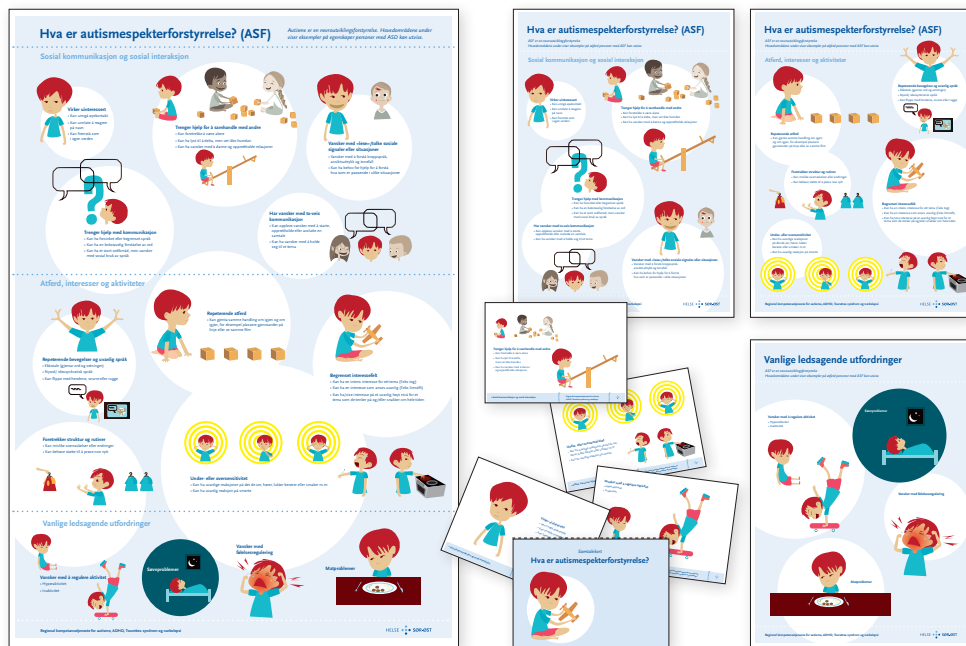
An introduction to the discussion tool

What is autism spectrum disorder?



Regional Resource Centre for Autism, ADHD,
Tourette's Syndrome and Narcolepsy

HELSE SØR-ØST



The objective of this material is to provide both visual and textual support to a review of areas affected when you have established a diagnosis within the autism spectrum.

The material is designed to support communicating ASD diagnoses to individuals with a multicultural background. The complete materials have been prepared in the following languages: Norwegian, English, Urdu, Polish, Arabic and Somali.

We hope this will help make it easier to convey, and quality-assure the communication of, findings and conclusions from autism assessments, irrespective of language and cultural background.

*The material has been prepared by the Regional Resource Centre for Autism, ADHD, Tourette's Syndrome and Narcolepsy of South-Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority (the RRC). The project group has consisted of representatives from the RRC: Tage Lien, Ulla Hansen, Bodil Sjørmæling
Akershus University Hospital Children's and Young People's Clinic Habilitation: Lise Skau Andersen
Kapellveien Habilitation Centre: Kristin Elling
Norwegian Autism Association: Eldrid Ytterland
Melkeveien design office: Birgitte Reff Kolbeinsen*

The original initiative to design the banner came from Lise Andersen and Kristin Elling, clinicians with experience of assessment and of work on communicating diagnoses within the autism spectrum.

Oslo, 2018

The banner and accompanying materials have been designed to provide support and to supplement work to communicate core difficulties in connection with the diagnosis of ASD following an assessment.

The primary target group is healthcare professionals responsible for assessing and diagnosing children with ASD. Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a pervasive developmental disorder that manifests itself in qualitative impairments in social interaction and communication, along with restricted, stereotyped and repetitive patterns of behaviour and interests. The symptoms can appear at an early age, but may become more prominent as age increases.

The banner is divided into the main areas that will be affected in all those who receive a diagnosis within the autism spectrum:

- *Social communication and social interaction*
- *Behaviours, interests and activities*

The banner has been prepared in accordance with the diagnostic criteria presented in ICD-11 and DSM-5.

The material also covers so-called common accompanying difficulties. These are difficulties that not all people with a diagnosis of ASD are affected by. They are common accompanying difficulties, but are not part of the diagnostic criteria.

Discussion cards

The cards feature the same text and illustrations as the banner. They are intended to be placed on a table, providing a starting point for discussion about one area at a time. For some, discussing all the various difficulties can be overwhelming, and in such cases the cards can be used to present findings within each area singly; the discussion can be carefully tailored to the individual, based on how the symptoms present for that person. The cards can also be printed out, so that participants can make notes/comments and take them home.

Information for people with a diagnosis

The task of communicating a diagnosis of autism to the person concerned can be challenging.

Nevertheless, it is important that this is done in a manner that is adapted to the individual. The autism banner is not intended to replace psychoeducative approaches, where the objective is to give the person an insight into their own situation, focusing on life skills and understanding their surroundings.

Even so, we believe that many will benefit from visual support when reviewing the main areas illustrated in the material.