

Studies

[How healthcare systems are experienced by autistic adults in the United Kingdom: A meta-ethnography](#)

Autistic adults are at increased risk of both mental and physical health difficulties, and yet can face barriers to accessing healthcare. A meta-ethnographic approach was used to conduct a review of the existing literature regarding autistic adults' experiences of accessing healthcare.

['Moving on' for Adults With a Learning Disability and Their Families: A Constructivist Grounded Theory Study](#)

Ending familial co-residence, termed 'moving on' by participants, is an increasingly relevant life transition for people with a learning disability due to increasing life expectancy and policy developments. Nevertheless, there is an absence of research exploring this transition experience in a United Kingdom (UK) context. This constructivist grounded theory study therefore aimed to explore, conceptualise, and theorise the 'moving on' experiences of adults with a learning disability and their families.

[Common and distinct cortical thickness alterations in youth with autism spectrum disorder and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder](#)

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) are neurodevelopmental disorders with overlapping behavioral features and genetic etiology. While brain cortical thickness (CTh) alterations have been reported in ASD and ADHD separately, the degree to which ASD and ADHD are associated with common and distinct patterns of CTh changes is unclear.

[Dietary intake and gastrointestinal symptoms are altered in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: the relative contribution of autism-linked traits](#)

Dietary and gastrointestinal (GI) problems have been frequently reported in autism spectrum disorder (ASD). However, the relative contributions of autism-linked traits to dietary and GI problems in children with ASD are poorly understood. This study firstly compared the dietary intake and GI symptoms between children with ASD and typically developing children (TDC), and then quantified the relative contributions of autism-linked traits to dietary intake, and relative contributions of autism-linked traits and dietary intake to GI symptoms within the ASD group.

[Perceived barriers and facilitators to infection prevention and control in Dutch residential care facilities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities: a cross-sectional study](#)

Adequate implementation of infection prevention and control (IPC) in residential care facilities (RCFs) for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) is crucial to safeguarding this vulnerable population. Studies in this field are scarce. This study aimed to identify perceived barriers to and facilitators of IPC among professionals working in these settings, along with recommendations to improve IPC, to inform the development of targeted interventions.

[Students applying for assistive tech via the DSA will now have a single point of contact](#)

A new Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA) service model has been launched to break down barriers of the previous service being too long and complex for students applying for assistive technology equipment.



[Fetal brain growth and infant autistic traits](#)

Structural differences exist in the brains of autistic individuals. To date only a few studies have explored the relationship between fetal brain growth and later infant autistic traits, and some have used fetal head circumference (HC) as a proxy for brain development. These findings have been inconsistent. Here we investigate whether fetal subregional brain measurements correlate with autistic traits in toddlers.

[Testing Two Online Symptom Checkers With Vulnerable Groups: Usability Study to Improve Cognitive Accessibility of eHealth Services](#)

The popularity of eHealth services has surged significantly, underscoring the importance of ensuring their usability and accessibility for users with diverse needs, characteristics, and capabilities. These services can pose cognitive demands, especially for individuals who are unwell, fatigued, or experiencing distress. Additionally, numerous potentially vulnerable groups, including older adults, are susceptible to digital exclusion and may encounter cognitive limitations related to perception, attention, memory, and language comprehension. Regrettably, many studies overlook the preferences and needs of user groups likely to encounter challenges associated with these cognitive aspects.

[Action Opportunities to Pursue Responsible Digital Care for People With Intellectual Disabilities: Qualitative Study](#)

Responsible digital care refers to any intentional systematic effort designed to increase the likelihood of a digital care technology developed through ethical decision-making, being socially responsible and aligned with the values and well-being of those impacted by it.

[Research reveals advantages and disadvantages to remote working for disabled people](#)

A research study at Coventry University has revealed how remote working can be a positive intervention for people with disabilities and neurodivergence.

News

[Some NHS centres twice as likely to diagnose adults as autistic, study finds](#)

Landmark research suggests people have an 85% chance of positive assessment at some centres in England and 35% in others.

[What's behind the UK's increase in autism diagnoses?](#)

Experts are undecided about whether there is overdiagnosis or whether more children are autistic.

[Autistic pupils in England denied right to education as absenteeism surges, says charity](#)

Research shows 166% rise of pupils missing one-tenth or more of school term.

['He hates failing': mother describes lack of help for autistic son](#)

Kirsti Hadley's son, 12, had been looking forward to a new school but became burnt out and anxious.

[A new understanding: how research into autism is evolving](#)

With an emphasis on working with autistic people to design interventions, pathways are opening up through social communication therapy and drug trials.



[Our new e-learning module exploring the mental health experiences of autistic teenagers](#)

We are delighted to launch our new e-learning module, A Guide to the Mental Health Experiences of Autistic Teenagers, which is aimed at professionals and parents who are supporting autistic young people aged from 13 to 18 years old.

[Spectrum 10K consultation report delayed](#)

The U.K.-based genetics study launched the consultation more than a year ago in response to fierce criticism from autistic self-advocates.

[Practical and inexpensive steps will help more autistic people into work, Government says](#)

Employers should ensure they have appropriate premises, furnishings, equipment and IT systems to help more autistic people in work, the Government has said.

[New programme tackles absenteeism among autistic pupils](#)

A coalition of charitable foundations have launched a new programme designed to tackle challenges around mental health and absenteeism among autistic pupils.

[Let Us Learn Too campaign launches new SEND appeal video](#)

The Let Us Learn Too campaign group has released a new video that features children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) urging the government to imagine what they could achieve if every child in the UK had access to an education.

[Mencap report shows reality of working in a social care system in crisis](#)

A third of learning disability support workers have left the sector for good due to poor pay and of those remaining many face financial hardship, according to a new report from Mencap.

