# Learning Disabilities and Autism Asperger Syndrome quality of life research mental capacity intellectual disabilities research mental capacity intellectual disabilities



21 October 2025

### **Studies**

<u>Self-harming behaviors among forensic psychiatric patients living with intellectual disability</u> Individuals with intellectual disabilities (ID) are frequently involved in the criminal justice system, and many subsequently enter the forensic psychiatric system. While individuals with ID in forensic psychiatric settings are known to have a high burden of engaging in self-harming behaviors, limited studies have explored self-harming behaviors among them.

An Overview of Eating Disorders in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Bibliometric Analysis from 2000 to 2024

This study constitutes a comprehensive review of research conducted in the field of eating disorders that pose a risk for children with autism spectrum disorder.

<u>Self-Help App for Depression in People With Intellectual Disabilities: A Randomized Clinical Trial</u> Can a self-help smartphone app reduce depressive symptoms among individuals with intellectual disabilities (IDs)?

<u>Balance control in children and adolescents with intellectual disability: a systematic review and</u> meta-analysis

To systematically summarise and analyse published research, which assessed balance control deficiencies of children and adolescents with intellectual disability (ID) in various balance domains by comparing their performance with that of typically developing (TD) peers.

Efficacy of physiotherapy with occupational and speech therapy for improving physical & behavioral status among children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD): an assessor blinded randomized clinical trial

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is characterized by physical, communication, and behavioral challenges that often require comprehensive interventions. This study aimed to evaluate the combined efficacy of physiotherapy, occupational and speech therapies in improving physical and behavioral outcomes among children with ASD.

<u>Digital health interventions targeting psychological health in parents of children with autism</u> spectrum disorder: a scoping review

Research consistently shows that parents of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are at a greater risk of psychological difficulties. While various interventions exist to enhance the psychological health of these parents, the potential of digital health interventions (DHIs) in this context remains underexplored.

<u>Examination of metabolic syndrome in Down syndrome and association with dementia</u> In the neurotypical population, metabolic syndrome (MetS) is associated with Alzheimer's disease (AD). However, this has not been well studied in adults with Down syndrome (DS).

The effect of fully immersive virtual reality technology combined with psychological and behavioral intervention on autism spectrum disorder

At present, there is a lack of targeted support models for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), mainly relying on comprehensive treatment with rehabilitation, education, and medication as supplements. Although there is some effectiveness, there are shortcomings such as long treatment cycles and limited engagement from some autistic children, especially in traditional formats.











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What Aspects Promote Health and Well-Being Among Autistic Adults and How Can They Be Incorporated Into Nursing Care? A Theoretical Podcast-Based Study

Nursing care aims to promote health and well-being among patients, but if nurses are to meet this requirement, they need to know the needs of the individual. Among autistic patients, health and well-being may be promoted using factors other than those used among other groups, indicating that their care needs may also differ.

#### **Webinars**

<u>Upcoming webinar: Keeping people who have Down's Syndrome well before and during</u> dementia

Join us on 26 November at 12:30pm for a free webinar presenting the award-winning workbook for families and carers: 'Keeping people who have Down's syndrome well before and during dementia'.

### **Blogs**

Why some autistic people don't speak

Around a third of autistic people – children and adults alike – are unable to share what they want using speech.

#### News

Improved safeguarding and protections for vulnerable people

Government to launch a consultation on Liberty Protection Safeguards to improve safeguarding for vulnerable people.

SCIE welcomes improved safeguarding and protections for vulnerable people

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), on Saturday 18 October, responded to news that the government will launch a consultation on Liberty Protection Safeguards to improve safeguarding for vulnerable people.

#### Government will replace DoLS with Liberty Protection Safeguards

Consultation on introducing new system, designed to streamline process of authorising deprivations of liberty in health and care settings, will take place in 2026, seven years after legislation to enact the LPS was passed.

#### New Liberty Protection Safeguards consultation launched

The Government has announced a consultation into Liberty Protection Safeguards, which will seek the views of those affected, such as families, carers and practitioners, including social workers, nurses, psychologists and occupational therapists.

#### "Deeply troubling" government legal action puts disability rights at risk

Mencap, Mind and the National Autistic Society say that "deeply troubling" legal action by the Department for Health and Social Care places the rights of thousands of disabled people at risk - especially those who cannot speak up, challenge decisions, or seek help when things go wrong.











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## Mental Health Bill commits to reduce reliance on inpatient care for people with learning disabilities

The Mental Health Bill took a step closer to becoming law after passing its third reading in the House of Commons this week. It includes a commitment to reduce reliance on inpatient care and limit the scope for detention for people with learning disabilities and autistic people.

#### Teachers express fears about forthcoming SEND reforms

Teachers have expressed "overwhelming pessimism" about proposed special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) reform in a new survey, with concerns far outweighing hopes across every aspect of the system.

#### Access to Work: over 17,000 people sign letter urging government to reform the scheme

The Access to Work Collective has delivered an open letter with over 17,000 signatures to the Government, urging it to urgently reform the Access to Work scheme so that no disabled person, whether employed or self-employed, is forced out of work due to preventable barriers within the system.

#### Health board failed vulnerable epilepsy patients with a learning disability

The Public Services Ombudsman for Wales has upheld seven separate complaints against Hywel Dda University Health Board for failing to care adequately for epilepsy patients with a learning disability.

### DHSC urges Supreme Court to overturn 'clearly wrong' Cheshire West ruling on deprivation of liberty

Government says 'acid test' set out in landmark 2014 ruling deviated from European Court of Human Rights case law, however charities have warned that its intervention risks removing vital safeguards from disabled people.

<u>Our response to US Health Secretary Robert F Kennedy's claims linking autism and circumcision</u> Speaking during a cabinet meeting, US Health Secretary Robert F Kennedy made claims linking autism with circumcision.

#### Keeping People and Relationships at the Heart of Social Care

Responding to new report on the state of the adult social care workforce in England...









