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Studies

quality of life

"I ask them what autism means for them": a qualitative study of staff experiences of working with autistic women and birthing people in community perinatal mental health teams Autistic women and birthing people (AWBP) face an increased risk of perinatal mental health issues and may be referred to Community Perinatal Mental Health Teams (CPMHTs). However, staff members of CPMHTs often lack sufficient training and knowledge about autism, leading to barriers in providing appropriate care.

Expert organisations with "challenging" and "complex" service users: Representation in English and Welsh autism charity reports and accounts

The language and imagery used in Autism charities' communications influences societal understanding of, and attitudes towards, Autistic people. This, in turn, shapes perceptions of whether and how the disabling barriers in society experienced by Autistic people can and should be addressed. Yet, to date, there has been minimal exploration of this discourse employed by Autism charities.

Navigating dental care under anesthesia: a comparative analysis of patients with dental anxiety and intellectual disabilities dental treatments under general anesthesia in adult patients Provision of dental treatment for patients with dental anxiety or special needs presents significant clinical challenges. Adults with dental anxiety, intellectual disabilities, or complex systemic conditions may be unable to tolerate conventional dental procedures, necessitating the use of sedation or general anesthesia (GA).

Situating emotion regulation in autism and ADHD through neurodivergent adolescents' perspectives

Accounts of emotional dysregulation in autism and ADHD are typically based on external adult observations anchored in neurotypical notions of appropriate emotional responses. These often fail to account for neurodivergent people's efforts to regulate in the context of the upsetting experiences they face, and to explore how neurodivergent young people manage emotional burden or find effective strategies to reduce distress and increase resilience.

'I feel trapped in my safe clothes': The impact of tactile hyper-sensitivity on autistic adults Clothing-related tactile hyper-sensitivity has been frequently reported among autistic people, but research investigating how this affects autistic adults is limited. This mixed-methods study investigated the impact of clothing-related tactile hyper-sensitivity on autistic adults' lives, focusing on appearance dissatisfaction, appearance awareness, self-esteem and selfexpression through clothing.

Addressing the knowledge gap: development of stakeholder-informed training to improve the inclusion of adults with impaired capacity to consent in trials

Improving the inclusion of under-served groups in clinical trials is increasingly being seen as a priority area for research funders and regulators. Adults who lack capacity to make an informed decision about taking part in trials are recognised as an under-served group. Researchers struggle to navigate the complex ethical, legal, and methodological issues surrounding trials involving adults lacking capacity to consent, leading to frequent exclusion of this population. Researchers have identified a need for greater knowledge about designing and conducting trials involving this population.











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<u>Co-creating a Canadian autism mental health literacy resource: a qualitative analysis of</u> advisory perspectives

Autistic adults experience disproportionately high rates of mental health challenges and encounter substantial barriers to care. While initiatives aimed at improving mental health literacy (MHL) offer one strategy for addressing these disparities, the processes through which such initiatives are co-produced with autistic adults and caregivers remain underexplored.

<u>Maternal Psychological Distress Before and After Childbirth and Neurodevelopmental Delay in</u> Toddlers

Is the timing of maternal psychological distress differentially associated with the risk of neurodevelopmental delay in toddlers?

Statistics

Personal social services adult social care survey report, England: 2024 to 2025

Official statistics on the outcomes and experiences of users aged 18 and over in receipt of long-term adult social care services in England.

Adult social care activity report, England: 2024 to 2025

Official statistics in development on adult social care activity including data on requests for support, provision of care services, and reviews of care and support plans.

Guidance

Making trials more accessible through better patient information leaflets

To find better health treatments for people, we need to carry out research. One type of health research is a 'clinical trial', where we find out which treatment is best. Before people agree to take part in a clinical trial, they need to be given information, so that they can decide if they want to take part. This information is usually given as a patient information leaflet or 'PIL'.

Podcasts

The Thrive in Psychiatry Podcast - Episode 1

In the first of a series of Thrive in Psychiatry podcasts that explore the challenges our members face, we discuss what needs to be done to support psychiatrists with carer responsibilities and to support neurodivergent psychiatrists.

Blogs

Autism charities can portray autistic people as helpless and a burden – our research shows why it matters

Autism charities are important organisations. They provide essential services for autistic people, influence policy decisions, and often speak on behalf of autistic people.











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Working as a neurodivergent psychiatrist

Choosing psychiatry has been one of the best decisions of my life. As someone who is AuDHD (Autistic and ADHD), this speciality has not only accepted me—it has given me space to grow, contribute meaningfully, and most importantly, stay. In a healthcare system that is underresourced and overstretched, the ability to feel psychologically safe is crucial for a neurodivergent individual like me.

News

Government legal case has put disability rights at risk

Our charity has joined Mencap and Mind to issue the following statement at the conclusion of the Supreme Court hearing which could reshape the legal safeguards for people who are deprived of their liberty.

<u>Inequalities persist as demand for social care rises: SCIE responds to the CQC's annual assessment of health and social care</u>

Today, 24 October, SCIE has responded to the Care Quality Commission's annual report, 'The state of health care and adult social care in England 2024/25.'

<u>'Publicly humiliated': parents describe difficulty of children's isolation at school</u> Parents say use of isolation room damages mental health and children's learning.

Three quarters of unpaid carers feel stressed and anxious as cost of living soars

The latest State of Caring Survey from Carers UK found that 74% of carers are worried about the impact their caring role will have in the future, including their ability to support themselves financially after their role ends.

The Timms Review: SCIE welcomes Government's commitment to co-production

Today, 31 October 2025, the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) has responded to the Government's announcement that the first-ever full review of Personal Independence Payment (PIP), or the Timms Review, will be led by disabled people.

National crisis in access to disability equipment, say MPs

There is a national crisis in community disability equipment services, with 55% of equipment users lacking the necessary medical equipment to meet their long-term care needs.

Taking first steps towards a National Care Service: exploring how we raise standards of care

Social care in England is characterised by marked variation in access and quality. In some better-resourced areas, services provide timely, personalised support that empowers people to live with choice, independence and dignity. In others, overstretched local systems struggle to meet people's basic needs, with unpaid carers often shouldering the financial, emotional, social and physical costs.

Asda hires autistic man who was let go by Waitrose after years of volunteering

An autistic man who was let go as an unpaid shelf stacker at a Waitrose supermarket despite volunteering there for years has been offered a job at Asda.









