



Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by difficulties with social interaction and communication, and certain characteristic patterns of behavior that cause impairment in learning and functions in daily life. ASD occurs more commonly in children with Down syndrome (at least 10% compared to 1.8-1.9% of children without Down syndrome). A formal diagnostic evaluation is recommended to diagnose ASD in children with Down syndrome, so that children can receive appropriate educational, behavioral and possibly, pharmacologic treatments for impairing symptoms.

Informational Webinars

[Boston Children's Hospital Down Syndrome Program Allen C. Crocker Speaker Series](#)

[Boston Children's Hospital Autism Spectrum Center Lecture Series](#)

General information

National Down Syndrome Society – [Down syndrome and Autism](#)

National Down Syndrome Congress – [When Down syndrome and Autism Co-Occur](#)

Down Syndrome Education International – [Autism and Down Syndrome](#)

The National Association of Dual Diagnosis -: [The National Association of Dual Diagnosis](#)

Autism Speaks - [Autism Speaks](#)

Parent Resources

Vanderbilt University Medical Center – [Autism related materials and resources](#)

Autism Speaks - [100 Day Toolkit](#)

[DS=Autism Connection](#) – monthly chats, information packets, and more

[Boston Children's Hospital Autism Spectrum Center](#): offers many resources including Family Education & Support, Research & Innovation and a series of webinars. You can sign up for the [BCH Autism Spectrum Center newsletter](#).

[MA Autism Support Center](#)

[The Autism Resource Center](#)

Social stories

Boston Children's Hospital Child Life – [Hospital Related Social Stories](#) [Carol Gray Social Stories](#)

Books

[When Down Syndrome and Autism Intersect: A Guide to DS-ASD for Parents and Professionals](#)

Safety

[Big red safety toolkit](#)

[Autism Speakers Autism Safety Project](#)

Facebook pages

[DS=Autism Connection](#)

[Autism Speaks](#)

[Autism Support Network](#)