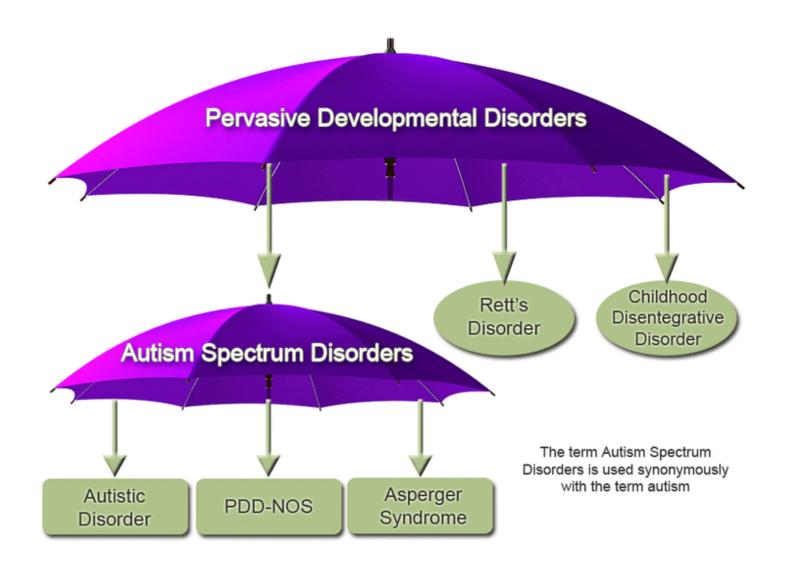
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# NEURODEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS

**Developmental psychopathology** is the study of the development of psychological disorders (e.g., psychopathy, autism, schizophrenia and depression) with a life course perspective.

Developmental psychopathology focuses on both typical and atypical child development in an effort to identify genetic, environmental, and parenting factors that may influence the longitudinal trajectory of psychological well being.

**pervasive developmental** disorders (PDD) refers to a group of disorders characterized by delays in the development of socialization and communication skills. Parents may note symptoms as early as infancy, although the typical age of onset is before 3 years of age.



Autism is a developmental **disorder** characterized by difficulties with social interaction and communication, and by restricted and repetitive behavior. Parents often notice signs during the first three years of their child's life.

Common **symptoms** include difficulty with communication, difficulty with social interactions, obsessive interests and repetitive behaviours.

**Behavioural**: inappropriate social interaction, poor eye contact, compulsive behaviour, impulsivity, repetitive movements, self-harm, or persistent repetition of words or actions

Developmental: learning disability or speech delay in a child

Cognitive: intense interest in a limited number of things or problem paying attention

Psychological: unaware of others' emotions or depression

Also common: anxiety, change in voice, sensitivity to sound, or tic

**Therapy** Early recognition, as well as behavioural, educational and family therapies may reduce symptoms and support development and learning

**Autism spectrum disorder** (**ASD**) is a complex developmental condition that involves persistent challenges in social interaction, speech and nonverbal communication, and restricted/repetitive behaviors. The effects of ASD and the severity of symptoms are different in each person.

**Asperger syndrome** (AS), also known as **Asperger's**, is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by significant difficulties in social interaction and nonverbal communication, along with restricted and repetitive patterns of behavior and interests.

**Rett syndrome** is a rare genetic disorder that affects **brain** development, resulting in severe mental and physical disability.

Infants seem healthy during their first six months, but over time, rapidly lose coordination, speech and use of the hands. Symptoms may then stabilise for years.

Childhood **disintegrative disorder** (CDD), also known as Heller's syndrome and **disintegrative** psychosis, is a rare condition characterized by late onset of developmental delays—or severe and sudden reversals—in language, social function, and motor skills.

**Pervasive Developmental Disorder – Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS)** refers to a group of disorders characterised by impairment in the development of social interaction, verbal and non-verbal communication, imaginative activity and a limited number of interests and activities that tend to be repetitive.

**Attention deficit disorder (ADD)** is a neurological **disorder** that causes a range of behavior problems such as difficulty attending to instruction, focusing on schoolwork, keeping up with assignments, following instructions, completing tasks and social interaction.

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) A chronic condition including attention difficulty, hyperactivity and impulsiveness. ADHD often begins in childhood and can persist into adulthood. It may contribute to low self-esteem, troubled relationships and difficulty at school or work.

**Symptoms** include limited attention and hyperactivity. **Treatments** include medication and talk therapy.

#### Medication

#### **Stimulant**

Increases neurotransmitter levels, heart rate and blood pressure. Decreases appetite and sleep.

### **Cognition-enhancing medication**

Improves mental function, lowers blood pressure and may balance mood.

## **Antihypertensive drug**

Lowers blood pressure.

**Disruptive behavior** disorders include two similar disorders: oppositional defiant **disorder** (ODD) and conduct **disorder** (CD). Common **symptoms** occurring in children with these disorders include: defiance of authority figures, angry outbursts, and other antisocial behaviors such as lying and stealing.

**Oppositional defiant disorder (ODD)** is a type of behavior disorder. It is mostly diagnosed in childhood. Children with **ODD** are uncooperative, defiant, and hostile toward peers, parents, teachers, and other authority figures. They are more troubling to others than they are to themselves.

**Conduct disorder** (CD) is a mental **disorder** diagnosed in childhood or adolescence that presents itself through a repetitive and persistent pattern of behavior in which the basic rights of others or major age-appropriate norms are violated.

**Tic disorder** are irregular, uncontrollable, unwanted, and repetitive movements of muscles that can occur in any part of the body. Movements of the limbs and other body parts are known as motor tics. Involuntary repetitive sounds, such as grunting, sniffing, or throat clearing, are called vocal tics

**Tourette's syndrome** A nervous system disorder involving repetitive movements or unwanted sounds. Tourette's syndrome starts in childhood.

It involves uncontrollable repetitive movements or unwanted sounds (tics), such as repeatedly blinking the eyes, shrugging shoulders or blurting out offensive words.

**Elimination disorders** all involve the inappropriate **elimination** of urine or feces and are usually first diagnosed in childhood or adolescence. This group of disorders includes **enuresis**, the repeated voiding of urine into inappropriate places, and **encopresis**, the repeated passage of feces into inappropriate places..

causes of encopresis, including constipation and emotional issues.

Prevention Avoid constipation, Learn about effective toilet training techniques, Get early treatment for encopresis.

**symptoms of enuresis** Signs and symptoms may include **bed-wetting**, daytime accidents, frequent urination, red or pink **urine**, and pain during urination. Sleep apnea

**Feeding Disorder** occurs when a child does not take in enough food to provide the necessary amount of nutrition, calories, and/or hydration required by the body in order to grow and thrive.

**Eating disorder** a group of conditions which causing abnormal eating habit for instance, insufficient food take or excessive food take.

#### Feeding and eating disorder include:

PICACraving and chewing substances that have no nutritional value, such as ice, clay, soil or paper

Rumination: recurrent regurgitation and rechewing of food.

Feeding disorder of infancy/ early childhood (avoidant/restrictive food intake) disorder: Persistence symptoms of inadequate food intake

**Intellectual disability (ID),** once called mental retardation, is characterized by below-average intelligence or mental ability and a lack of skills necessary for day-to-day living. People with intellectual disabilities can and do learn new skills, but they learn them more slowly.

The DSM-IV classifies **mental retardation**or ID into **four stages** based on severity: mild (IQ score of 50-55 to approximately 70), **moderate** (IQ score of 30-35 to 50-55), severe (IQ score of 20-25 to 35-40), and profound (IQ score of less than 20-25).

**Mental retardation** comprises five general categories: borderline, mild, moderate, severe and profound.

Learning disability is a neurological disorder. In simple terms, a learning disability results from a difference in the way a person's brain is "wired." Children with learning disabilities are as smart or smarter than their peers.

many learning disabilities are categorized as one of three types: **dyslexia**, **dysgraphia**, and dyscalculia.

**Dyslexia** is a language processing disorder that impacts reading, writing, and comprehension.

Individuals with **dysgraphia** may exhibit difficulty with letter spacing, poor motor planning and spatial awareness, and trouble thinking and writing simultaneously.

**Dyscalculia** referred to as having "math dyslexia," individuals might have difficulty reading clocks to tell time, counting money, identifying patterns, remembering math facts, and solving mental math.

## Visual perceptual/visual motor deficit

Individuals with visual perceptual/visual motor deficit exhibit poor hand-eye coordination, often lose their places when reading, and have difficulty with pencils, crayons, glue, scissors, and other fine motor activities.

**nonverbal learning disabilities (NVLD)** relate to an individual's inability to speak, it actually refers to difficulties in decoding nonverbal behaviors or social cues.

Auditory processing disorder (APD), patients have difficulty processing sounds.

A subset of auditory processing disorder, **language processing** disorder arises when an individual has specific challenges in processing spoken language, impacting both receptive and expressive language.

Treatments A subset of auditory processing disorder, language processing disorder arises when an individual has specific challenges in processing spoken language, impacting both receptive and expressive language.