

## UNDERSTANDING THE LEVELS OF AUTISM



#### Written By

DR. P. SUMITHA HEMAVATHY (PT) Founder & Director - CAPAAR If we believe the stats then almost 1 in every 59 children **suffer from autism**. The signs of this condition are being seen at a young age, but not everyone comes to know of the condition till a young age. The doctors have categorized autism into 3 levels on the basis of their different symptoms. One level might be that the child might not be able to adjust socially, the second level is repetitive behaviors and the third one might be restrictive. So doctors have assigned these levels on the basis of these behaviors and the severity of symptoms.

## Level 1

Level 1 is the most less severe kind of autism diagnosed among adults. Basically people of this level usually face many difficulties in interacting socially and they might also require some support. It might be very difficult for them to begin interaction and they might find it difficult to respond to other people and they might lose interest in people quickly. So they might not be able to make many friends, especially without the required amount of support. They might also be very inflexible. They might have to face a lot of difficulty in adjusting to the new environment.

## LEVELS OF AUTISM



## LEVEL 2

People on the level 2 might require more support than the people on level 1. These people might suffer more while interacting socially than the upper level. Even when they do have support, it might be very challenging for them to continue in a conversation and they may also respond inappropriately. They might only speak whenever it was required. They might not understand the non-verbal communication and they might face many problems in communicating with the person whom they might be communicating with. They might also be more inflexible than level 1.

#### LEVEL 3

These are the most severe kind of autism. These people might be facing severe issues in verbal and **non-verbal communication**. They just avoid any kind of interaction and even if they have to, they have very limited communication with the people. They may keep on repeating the behaviors again and again and might be very restrictive about their behaviors. Their reactions are strong and they may also distress any kind of situation with their behaviors. So it is extremely important that they should get the required amount of support that they need, otherwise they might not be able to survive.

## Symptoms



### SYMPTOMS

It is extremely important that you should be aware of the **symptoms of autism** socially and their behaviors as well so that you are aware of them and can help in extending the support to the required people. It would be of great help for them that they should be taken to the required doctors who can understand their situation and thus it would be really helpful for them as someone would be able to understand their situation and they would get the required amount of help. So keep an eye on the symptoms:

#### 1. Social Symptoms:

- Facing difficulty in starting or maintaining a conversation
- They may respond wrong to others
- They may be interested in discussing their interests in details with the people whom they know
- They might avoid any kind of eye contact
- Their facial expressions might not match with the topic of the conversation
- They may face a lot of problems in understanding the other's perspective and they might just believe more on theirs.

#### 2. Behavioral Symptoms:

- They have strong repetitive behaviors
- They maintain distance from others
- They may have obsessive disorders
- They may have a high level of interest in such subjects like mathematics and art
- They may not be able to cope up with the new situation
- They might be very sensitive to the loud voices, they might just hate the loud voices.
- They may also have many problems while they try to sleep.

## TREATMENT

You have to understand that Autism is a lifelong condition and the medicines cannot be helpful in the treatment. Only the therapies and support can help them in improving their situation. So some of the most common symptoms are that they are major irritated, they may be very aggressive, they might have oppressive behavior, they may be very hyper, they may be impulse, they might not pay attention to the details, their mood might change within minutes and they may also have the anxiety attacks and anxiety problems.

## TREATMENTS



These people might be given the educational and behavioral therapies that can help young children suffering from autism to improve their situation. As the child might find it very difficult to understand the conversation and to maintain it. These therapies might also require the family members to attend the therapies so that they can understand how to handle a situation with the children who are **suffering from autism**.

## OUTLOOK OF PEOPLE

The people might be looking at these people from a different outlook. Some people might be sympathetic towards these people while others might not be sympathetic. Some of the people might be able to understand their situation, whereas there might be some that might not understand their situation. It is extremely important that the people should understand their situation and instead of making fun of them, they should try to understand the situation and should extend their support to these people. So society needs to change their outlook for autism, it would solve many problems. If the outlook of society would change for the people suffering from autism would change once, it would solve the problem for all times. No one would face any kind of problem if the society is well aware of this situation and they should know how to handle the required situation. So it is extremely important that the situation should change with the change in the outlook. It would make it easy for people suffering from autism to live and get adjusted in this world. It would make the world easier for them and their condition might improve.



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#### CONCLUSION



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