

## Study

[Study of England and Northern Ireland finds 8-fold increase in autism diagnosis over the last 20 years](#)

Summarises a recent UK population-based cohort study which used National Health Service data to find a 787% increase in autism diagnoses over the past 20 years.

## Reports

[Community learning disability and autism placements increasingly costlier than inpatient care](#)

Government-commissioned study says new funding needed to support longstanding drive to discharge people with learning disabilities and autistic people from mental health hospitals, given current budget deficits.

[AsIAm Calls on Government for Greater Investment for Autistic People and Families](#)

AsIAm has published its [Pre-Budget Submission 2023](#), titled "Living Under Pressure", which calls on the Government to provide greater investment for the Autistic community to protect Autistic people and their families from the sharpest consequences of the cost-of-living crisis and encourage much more active participation and inclusion in Irish society.

## Guidance

[Australia drafts guideline for supporting autistic children](#)

Government-convened experts laid out 84 recommendations, with a particular focus on affirming neurodiversity and embracing human rights.

[Two new easy read guides to help people with learning disabilities understand and access health information](#)

Two new easy read guides have been produced by the NHS to help people with learning disabilities and autism better understand and access health information. The guides were funded by Health Education England and produced by NHS Knowledge and Library Services in partnership with people with lived experience. The first guide, [Get ready to talk about your health](#), explains how to prepare for a consultation with a health or care provider. The second guide, [3 questions for health](#), provides useful information about how to have better talks with healthcare professionals (including GPs, nurses, healthcare assistants, consultants and mental health professionals).

## News

### [Good Lives: Chapter 4 'To love and be loved'](#)

Chapter 4 of [Good Lives](#) is all about people with learning disabilities having the opportunity to love and be loved.

### [Factors other than autism traits guide therapies for autistic children](#)

Most autistic children in the Netherlands have used some sort of treatment, but the number, type and timing varies depending on considerations unrelated to their condition.

### [Mutations disrupting chromatin interactions contribute to autism](#)

The mutations occur spontaneously in noncoding stretches of DNA that control gene expression.

### [Anxiety drives amygdala differences in autistic youth](#)

Regions of the brain's fear center expand in autistic children and teenagers with anxiety, but not in their autistic or non-autistic peers without anxiety.

### [Equality and Human Rights Commission respond to BtRS Action Plan - Challenging Behaviour Foundation](#)

Following the recent publication of the [Joint Committee of Human Rights report on Protecting Human Rights In Care Settings](#), The Equality and Human Rights Commission have posted a response to the Building the Right Support Action Plan, published 14th July 2022.

Concerns include:

- People will be admitted to hospitals rated as inadequate
- The action plan has a lack of urgency regarding timescales
- There is a lack of clarity regarding how the plan will help discharge people, or analysis and learning from previous failures to meet targets and spending commitments throughout the action plan

### [Government shows lack of "action and urgency" in response to select committee report](#)

The government has been criticised for "lack of action and urgency" in its response to the Health and Social Care Committee report into the treatment of autistic people and people with learning disabilities. The [committee report](#) showed evidence that current levels of provision for community services are totally inadequate and have resulted in autistic people and people with learning disabilities being avoidably admitted to inpatient settings where, too often, they do not receive the support they require and there are no specialists in their condition.