

Studies

[Prevalence and modifiable risk factors for dementia in persons with intellectual disabilities](#)

People with intellectual disability (ID) without Down syndrome (DS) are presumed to be at higher risk of developing dementia due to their lower baseline cognitive reserve. We aimed to determine the prevalence of dementia in people with ID without DS and to identify risk factors of dementia.

[Experiences and perceptions of everyday decision-making in the lives of adults with intellectual disabilities, their care partners and direct care support workers](#)

Decisional support is important to people with intellectual disabilities. This review explores: i) how everyday decision-making is perceived and/or experienced by adults with intellectual disability, their care partners and direct care support workers (DCSWs); ii) techniques/approaches used to support everyday decision-making; and iii) barriers/facilitators encountered.

[Executive Dysfunctions in Different Learning Disabilities: A Review](#)

Executive functions (EFs) are a set of cognitive processes required to select and monitor behaviors that facilitate the achievement of desired goals. Many studies reported that students with learning disabilities appear to have impaired EFs and difficulties in performing school-related and daily activities.

[Dropping the mask: It takes two](#)

In some social situations, autistic people feel pressure to modify their innate social behaviour (i.e. camouflage), while in other social situations they feel free to engage in ways that feel authentic or true to themselves. To date, the latter aspect of autistic people's experience has rarely been explored. Using an online qualitative survey, this study examined 133 autistic people's experiences and perspectives of socialising in ways that felt authentic to them, with a particular focus on mixed-neurotype interactions and the role of nonautistic people.

['It seems like a luxury to be able to offer that': Factors influencing the implementation of annual health checks for autistic people in England](#)

Autistic people in England face worse health outcomes than non-autistic people. Autism-specific annual health checks have been proposed as one solution to this issue. This study identified strategies to incentivise primary care providers to offer autism-specific annual health checks, using a behavioural science approach.

[Positive and challenging themes in parents' perceptions of their relationships with their child with autism: Comparison between mothers and fathers](#)

Most studies of how parents of children with autism view the parent-child relationship used self-report questionnaires and focused on challenges. This study broadened the lens by interviewing parents using open-ended questions that provide an opportunity to raise challenging but also positive experiences.

[When a Sibling Has Autism: Narrative Review of Interventions for Typically Developing Siblings](#)

Being a typically developing sibling to a child with autism spectrum disorder (ASD-Sib) can be associated with several behavioral and mental health problems. With this understanding, researchers are beginning to focus on sibling-oriented interventions. This review seeks to evaluate the current literature on such interventions.



[Youth engagement in research: exploring training needs of youth with neurodevelopmental disabilities](#)

Authentic researcher-youth partnerships in patient-oriented research (POR) where the research responds to the needs expressed by youth themselves are essential to make research meaningful. While patient-oriented research (POR) is increasingly practiced, few training programs exist in Canada and none, to our knowledge, are tailored for youth with neurodevelopmental disabilities (NDD). Our primary objective was to explore the training needs of youth (ages 18–25) with NDD to enhance their knowledge, confidence, and skills as research partners. Our secondary objective was to identify the benefits and challenges of engaging youth with NDD in a POR approach.

[Home environment design theories and models related to the occupational performance, participation and well-being of people with intellectual disabilities: A scoping review](#)

Access to housing for people with intellectual disabilities is often constrained by lack of choice, control and can often be inappropriate or unsafe. To enable people to remain at home and participate in their occupations, a collation and review of theories and models supporting good home environment design offers a view from which practice could be advanced.

Study Summaries

[Suicide prevention for autistic people: the importance of belonging, mental health and movement](#)

Mental health difficulties are experienced by up to 80% of autistic adults, and depression and anxiety in this population are associated with suicidal thoughts, behaviours, and sometimes even death from suicide (Kolves et al., 2021). Autism spectrum conditions also remain over-represented in the figures of individuals who die from suicide each year. Globally, it's estimated that there are around 700,000 deaths by suicide among autistic individuals each year (WHO, 2021).

News

['We were inundated': creating pioneering homes for autistic young adults](#)

Following the success of Linden Farm, the Simon Trust helps families create specialised local residences for their adult children with highly complex needs.

[UK children waiting 16 months on average for ADHD and autism screening – study](#)

Children with suspected ADHD and autism are waiting as long as seven years for treatment on the NHS, as the health service struggles to manage a surge in demand during a crisis in child mental health.

[Can 'neuroinclusivity' cut crime? Rethinking the link between neurodiversity and the criminal justice system](#)

Why do neurodivergent people face disproportionate representation and outcomes across the criminal justice system? And, more importantly, what can be done to address this issue? In this piece, Zahra Wynne, Policy Manager at Revolving Doors, delves into the significance of recognising and addressing neurodiverse needs within the criminal justice system. Drawing on insights from our Neurodiversity Forum, she explores the challenges faced by those navigating the criminal justice system with a neurodiverse condition and unveils potential solutions to ensure better prevention and inclusivity, as well as desistance.



challenging behaviour
Learning Disabilities and Autism
Asperger Syndrome
quality of life

research
mental capacity
intellectual disabilities
health information
carers



NHS
Mersey Care
NHS Foundation Trust
Community and Mental Health Services

19 July 2023

[Why accessing healthcare is hard](#)

When you're a child, your parents take you to medical appointments. Teachers and support staff also liaise with medical professionals for physical and mental health. You're looked after. But once you reach 18, you are on your own. Without the right support, it can be difficult to know who to contact for help and how to do this. Even when you do know, there can be many barriers in the way that can put you off getting help.

[Good lives through supported housing](#)

Last week, some of us at Learning Disability England attended the launch event for a research project. It was around Supported Housing for People with Learning Disabilities and Autistic People in England.

[One year on from the publication of the government's Building the Right Support Action Plan](#)

"It's been a year since the government published their 'action plan' – 'Building the Right Support' – a national plan to deliver on its promise of a nearly decade ago to get people with a learning disability and autistic people out of inpatient mental health hospitals across England and build community support.

[Tory MP calls for new Bill to make autism training mandatory for education staff](#)

A conservative MP is campaigning for an 'Early autism assessment and mandatory teacher training Bill' that would ensure all educational staff receive autism training.

[Court overturns ruling and declares National Disability Strategy lawful](#)

The Court of Appeal has ruled that the National Disability Strategy is lawful, overturning a previous ruling that it was unlawful as it was not an appropriate consultation.

