

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition

DSM-5 Checklist for Autism

A

Deficits in use or understanding of social communication and social interaction in multiple contexts, not accounted for by general developmental delays.

B

Restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviour, interests, or activities.

A

1. Social-emotional reciprocity. E.g. failure of back and forth conversation through reduced sharing of interests and emotions
2. Nonverbal communicative behaviours used for social interaction. E.g. poorly integrated verbal and nonverbal communication, abnormalities in eye contact and body language, lack of facial expression and gestures
3. Developing and maintaining relationships appropriate to developmental level. E.g. adjusting behaviour to suit different social contexts, sharing in play and making friends

B

1. Stereotyped or repetitive speech or motor movements
2. Excessive adherence to routines, ritualised patterns or behaviour, or excessive resistance to change
3. Highly restricted, fixated interests that are abnormal in intensity of focus. E.g. strong attachment or preoccupation with unusual objects
4. Hyper or hypo reactivity to sensory input or unusual interest in sensory aspects of environment. E.g. excessive touching or smelling.

For a diagnosis to be made there must be deficits in all 3 sections of category A and at least 2 sections of category B