

AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER© 2008

Dynamic Intervention for Neuronal Membrane Stabilization

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Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by impairments in social interaction, communication, behavioral stereotypes and a range of cognitive deficits. Clinical signs of autism are frequently present at 3 years of age, but many toddlers demonstrate abnormalities in social, communication and play behavior as early as 14 months. These impairments are considered to arise as a consequence of a disturbed neural network during pre or postnatal development.

Children within the realm of autistic spectrum disorder exhibit a systemic presentation that has forced us to look deeper, to embrace the whole person---the brain, the nervous system, the gastrointestinal system, the immune system, the endocrine system, the hepatic system. Children with autism will teach us as no patient ever has before.

A new autism model is emerging¹ with a major shift in emphasis from genetic causality to environmental factors that act upon individual genetic vulnerability, to systemic insult, to cellular function. This chapter approaches autism by discarding the old model of autism as a static or “fixed” condition, and embracing autism as a dynamic condition with changeable features, where significant improvements and recoveries are reachable. By carefully examining the state of the cell membrane, the relevant neurochemistry, and the essential fatty acid status, we have a metabolic window into attaining an individualized biomedical approach towards food and nutrient-based interventions.