



Signs and symptoms of autism

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Annotation: In this article, we look at the symptoms of autism, as well as the onset of the disease. We will also talk about the main features, social relationships, speech and its perception, limited interests.

Key words: autistic disorders, hidden atypical autism, specific features, violations of verbal communication, etc.

Autism symptoms are a combination of causes and factors leading to various changes in the human body, which may indicate the onset and development of this disease. Autism or autism disorders is a disease that is a form of mental disorder in which children develop significant developmental disorders, manifested in a distorted perception of reality and denial of social interaction. How to identify autism, in which it is expressed, what criteria may indicate the beginning of the disease? Answers to these and many other questions can be found by reading the following article.

This disease in children occurs in two to four cases per hundred thousand people. If we add to this the hidden atypical autism, when the underlying disease is accompanied by mental retardation, then this number will immediately increase to twenty. At the same time, autism is manifested in boys four times more often than in girls.

Autistic disorder can manifest itself in any person absolutely at any age, but the clinical signs of the disease will vary considerably in children, adolescents and adults.

It is customary to distinguish between: early childhood autism (RDA), which can be detected in children under three years of age, childhood



autism, which manifests itself from three to eleven years old, and adolescent autism, usually found in people after eleven years.

There are several types of this disease. They have various symptoms and some specific features characteristic of a particular type of illness. According to the international classification of diseases there are: Kanner syndrome or classic autism, Asperger syndrome, Rett syndrome and atypical autism.

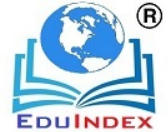
The manifestation of the first signs of child autism can be seen already in a one-year-old child. Although more pronounced symptoms of the disease occur, as a rule, in two and a half - three years. During this period, the most noticeable closure of the child, care in themselves and the limitations of his interests.

If such a child is not the first in the family, then the mother sees the initial signs of the disease as early as infancy, since it is possible to draw a comparison between this baby and his older brother or sister. Otherwise, to understand that something is wrong with the child is quite difficult. Usually, this is manifested at the moment when the autistic kid goes to kindergarten, that is, much later.

It happens that the diagnosis of autism is made after five years. For such children is characteristic:

- the presence of a higher IQ, compared with those patients who have previously been diagnosed with the disease;
- preservation of communication skills;
- the presence of less pronounced cognitive disorders;
- distorted perception of the world;
- behavior in which there is isolation from society.

Almost always between the first signs of manifestation of autism and direct diagnosis, there is a certain period of time. After all, later, when a



child needs to communicate not only with relatives and close people, other character traits arise, which the parents did not attach any importance to before. In other words, the disease does not come suddenly, just at the initial stage to recognize it is quite difficult.

Although the symptoms of the disease vary significantly depending on the form of autism, the age of the child and other factors, there are basic signs of the disease common to all autists. It should be understood that the presence of one of the symptoms is not enough for making such a diagnosis. In such cases, the so-called triad is used for diagnosis - the three most obvious features by which one can determine the presence of this disease. Consider each of the main features in more detail.

This characteristic is essential for children with autism. Autists eschew the external environment, locking themselves in their imaginary world. They do not like to communicate and in every way avoid various communications.

The fact that the baby does not ask at all for hands, is inactive, reacts weakly to new toys, does not clap hands, rarely smiles, should alert the mother. Sick children, as a rule, do not respond to their own name, they react poorly to sounds and light. When you try to establish communication with them, they get scared or fall into aggression. Lack of eye contact is characteristic of more severe forms of autism and this symptom does not appear in all patients. Often these children can look at one point for a long time, as if through a person.

Growing up, the child is increasingly withdrawn into himself, almost never turns for help, has little contact with other family members. Many of the cases do not tolerate hugs and touches.



Verbal communication disorders always occur with autism. In some, they may be pronounced, in others - weak. At the same time, there can be both speech delay and the complete absence of speech function.

With early childhood autism, this is manifested more clearly. Small children may even be completely absent. In some cases, on the contrary: the child begins to talk, and after a while he withdraws into himself and becomes silent. It happens that such children initially outrun their peers in speech development, and then, from about a year and a half, there is a regressive decline, and they stop talking altogether. However, they often talk to themselves, and sometimes in their sleep.

Also, babies often lack babbling and walking, various gestures and facial expressions are rarely used. Growing up, the child begins to speak tongue-tied, confuses pronouns.

Being among other people, such children are usually silent, not inclined to communicate, and may not answer questions. However, being alone with themselves, they often comment on their actions, speak to themselves and even declare poetry.

The speech of such children is characterized by monotony, lack of intonation. It is dominated by quotes, various teams, strange words, rhymes.

Autistic children often show an interest in any one toy and it persists for many years. Games of such children are monotonous, or they do not play in principle. Often, you can see how the child watches the movement of the sunbeam for hours or review the same cartoon several times. They can be so absorbed in one occupation that they create the impression of complete detachment from the outside world, and attempts to tear them away from this end in attacks of hysteria.



Children with autism most often do not play with their toys, but tend to build them more in a certain order and constantly sort them: by shape, size or color.

The interests of autists are reduced to the constant recalculation and sorting of objects, as well as building them in a certain order. Sometimes they are addicted to collecting, statistics, design. Any of the interests that are found among autists is characterized by a lack of social relationships. Autists lead a secluded, atypical way of life for their peers, and do not allow anyone into their games, even the same sick children as themselves.

Often they are attracted not by the game itself, but by certain processes taking place in them. It is common for such children to turn the tap on and off from time to time, looking at running water and taking other similar actions.

Autism is a disease, predominantly of childhood, which is characterized by a number of specific symptoms and signs. Their description often varies depending on the form of mental disorder, the age of the child and many other factors.

It is necessary to know what signs exactly indicate the occurrence of this disease, so as not to confuse it with other diseases. And in case of several of them, it is necessary to consult a specialist as soon as possible.

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