



WHY ARE SO MANY AUTISTIC GIRLS AND WOMEN STILL MISSING OUT ON EARLY IDENTIFICATION?

1 INCORRECT STEREOTYPES



Autism was presumed a 'male condition'



Consequently, studies included more boys than girls



Research is still seeking more girls for studies

2 INCOMPLETE RESEARCH

Gender bias can skew symptoms toward male presentation, like playing alone



Historically, researchers presumed being female automatically lowered probability of autism

3 COMPENSATORY BEHAVIORS

Girls are more likely to mask autistic traits, or to take a focused interest in socially acceptable topics like books and music



Camouflaging symptoms is easier at an early age, the most crucial time for diagnosis

4 LIMITED DIAGNOSIS

Clinicians sometimes take a "wait and see" approach with young girls, delaying early identification

Early identification is more likely when girls have co-occurring conditions like:

Seizures

Hyperactivity

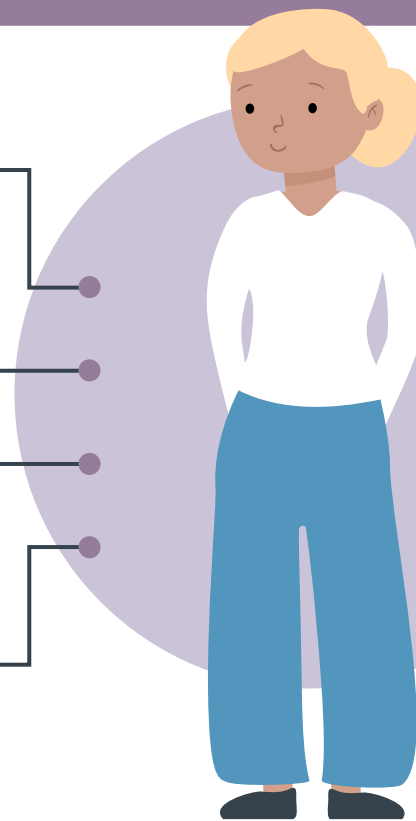
ADHD

OCD

Intellectual disability

Challenges in eating, sleep, and temperament

Depression or other mood disorders



Scan the QR code to access the corresponding blog, further readings on autism, and related webinars.

