

# WAYNE GENERAL HOSPITAL

IS NOW OFFERING

## COMPREHENSIVE AUTISM EVALUATIONS

USING THE AUTISM DIAGNOSTIC  
OBSERVATION SCHEDULE (ADOS-2)

ADOS-2 IS CONSIDERED THE “GOLD  
STANDARD” FOR ASSESSING AND  
DIAGNOSING AUTISM ACROSS AGES,  
DEVELOPMENTAL LEVELS, AND  
LANGUAGE SKILLS TO PROVIDE  
ACCURATE EVIDENCE-BASED RESULTS.

INCLUDES ASSESSMENTS  
COVERING ALL AREAS OF  
DEVELOPMENT:

- ADAPTIVE PHYSICAL
- SOCIAL
- /EMOTIONAL
- COMMUNICATION
- COGNITION

PRESCRIPTION ORDER  
FROM DOCTOR IS  
REQUIRED.  
FULL WRITTEN REPORT  
PROVIDED.



# DISCOVERING AUTISM

## WHAT AUTISM IS:

Autism is a difference in the brain that impacts how a person experiences and perceives the world around them. Individuals with an Autism diagnosis will have (or have a history of) some but not all differences in communication, socialization, and repetitive thoughts/restrictive behaviors.

## WHAT AUTISM IS NOT:

Autism is NOT bad or wrong. It does not mean anti-social , poorly behaved, or unintelligent. It does not mean a child will not make progress, communicate, have friends, excel in school, have a job, get married, or anything else. Autism is not a word to be avoided and is not anything to be ashamed of - it is simply a difference in the brain.

## THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

Individuals have areas of strengths and weaknesses and similarities and differences in a variety of areas. The autism spectrum is not linear. We cannot point to a place on a line and say, "This is the level the individual is at." This is because individuals present in a variety of ways and have a range of strengths, needs, and/or areas of needed support. It is important for parents to understand that levels given are subjective and will not necessarily remain the same over time.

## AUTISM DIAGNOSIS

In order for a medical diagnosis of Autism to be made, a person must show differences in social communication and interaction, play behaviors, or restrictive/repetitive interests.

# WAYNE GENERAL HOSPITAL

## LEVELS OF AUTISM

### DSM-5

As part of a medical diagnosis, most evaluators using the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) give a severity of Autism as part of the diagnosis. This is reported by giving a person diagnosed with Autism one of three levels. It's important to note that levels are not always accurate across skills, settings, and/or overtime, and many professionals and Autistic adults, feel levels or functioning labels (high or low functioning Autism) are not helpful descriptors.

### Level 1, Requiring Support:

Without support, deficits cause noticeable impairments. Has average to near average language skills but struggles with pragmatic or social language such as participating in conversations, and difficulty with social interaction. May have difficulty with change and/or organizational difficulties that interferes in at least one context.

### Level 2, Requiring Substantial Support:

Has marked deficits in communication and social skills such as difficulty speaking about non-preferred topics or abnormal responses to social overtures. Difficulty with change or restricted interests that is obvious to the casual observer and interferes in a variety of contexts.

### Level 3, Requiring Very Substantial Support:

Severe deficits in verbal and nonverbal functioning, very limited invitations and responses to social overtures. Extreme difficulty coping with change and has restricted interest or repetitive behaviors that interfere in all settings.

OUR GOAL FOR AUTISTIC CHILDREN IS

---

**NOT TO CHANGE THEM**

---

BUT TO **CHANGE** THE WORLD  
**AROUND** THEM.

---

We aim to allow them the  
accommodations and support they  
need to be successful  
in this world.

