
Introduction

Autism is defined by *the Autism Society Of America (ASA) (2012)* as complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the brain, impacting development in the areas of social interaction and communication skills. Both children and adults with autism typically show difficulties in verbal and non-verbal communication, social interactions, and leisure or play activities. Autism is one of five disorders that fall under the umbrella of Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD), a category of neurological disorders characterized by “severe and pervasive impairment in several areas of development.

In Egypt the prevalence of autistic child 152,234 warning (*American autism society, 2010*).

There currently is no cure for autism; Treatment for autism may include a combination of the following **Special education:** Education is structured to meet the child's unique educational needs. **Behavior modification:** This includes strategies for supporting positive behavior and decreasing problem behavior by the child. **Speech, physical, or occupational therapy:** These therapies are designed to increase the child's functional There are no medications currently approved to treat autism, but medications may be used to treat specific symptoms (*Zachor, 2006*).

Pediatric and psychiatric nurses are usually members of such multidisciplinary teams. The most significant role of a nurse in autism recognition and diagnosis is education. The nurse, the family, and the

patient must all be educated on various aspects of autism and autistic disorders. This places nurses at a critical juncture, because they must be increasingly knowledgeable, understanding and supportive of the parents and children afflicted with this condition. The nurse's level of understanding of autism spectrum disorders can have a great impact on the prognosis of children with childhood autism (*Gelder et al, 2003*).

Technology means any item, piece of equipment, or product system, whether acquired commercially, off-the-shelf, modified or customized, that is used to increase, maintain, or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities. Technology service is any service that directly assists an individual with a disability in the selection, acquisition, or use of a technology device. Children with autism process visual information easier than auditory information. Therefore various types of technology from "low" tech to "high" tech, should be incorporated into every aspect of daily living in order to improve the functional capabilities of children with autism (*Stokes, 2010*).

Tape recorders and Voice Output communication Aides (VOCA), are battery operated units that fall into the category of Mid-technology. Autistic children are motivated by these tools which have been used successfully to enhance communication comprehension and social skills. Improvement in comprehension impacts organization skills, capacity to follow directions and ability for independent self-care. Children who fall within the Autistic disorder spectrum commonly present with a wide variety of expressive communication problems ranging from preverbal to verbal difficulties resulting in social problems with peers. A VOCA is an electronic device which can be used easily to help a child overcome communication challenges and improve relationships with classmates (*Cutter, 2010*).
