

**Assessment of Patterns of Exposure to
Physical Punishment and its
Effect on Autistic Child**

Thesis

Submitted for Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement of
the Master Degree in Pediatric Nursing

By

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List of Abbreviations

| Abbr. | Full term |
|-------------------|---|
| ABA | Applied Behavior Analysis |
| ADI-R | Autism Diagnostic Interview-Revised |
| ADOS | Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule |
| ASDs | Autism Spectrum Disorders |
| CARS | Childhood Autism Rating Scale |
| CBT | Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy |
| CDC | Centers for Disease Control |
| CDD | Childhood Disintegrative Disorder |
| CMAJ | Canadian Medical Association Journal |
| DISCO | Diagnostic Interview for Social and Communication Disorders |
| DLS | Daily Living Skills |
| DNA | Deoxyribonucleic Acid |
| DSM-5 R | Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, Fifth Revision |
| DSP | Disability Support Pension |
| EIBI | Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention |
| FDA | Food and Drug Administration |
| HFA | High Functioning Autism |
| IQ | Intelligence Quotient |
| LFA | Low Functioning Autism |
| M-CHAT-R | Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers-Revised |
| M-CHAT-R/F | Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers-Revised, with Follow-Up |
| MFA | Medium Functioning Autism |
| MgluR | Metabotropic Glutamate Receptors |
| MNS | Mirror Neuron System |
| PDD | Pervasive Developmental Disorders |
| PDD-NOS | Pervasive Developmental Disorder Not Otherwise Specified |

| Abbr. | Full term |
|--------------|---|
| PDDs | Pervasive Developmental Disorders |
| PKU | Phenylketonuria |
| QCA | Qualitative Comparative Analysis |
| RBS-R | Restricted Behavior Scale-Revised |
| RRB | Restricted Interests and Repetitive Behaviors |
| UK | United Kingdom |
| US | United States |

Assessment of Patterns of Exposure to Physical Punishment and its Effect on Autistic Child

Abstract

Background: An autistic child with physical punishment, bruises is the most common signs, even though there are other injuries as well. Bruises in abused children often found in areas protected from normal activity such as buttocks, thighs or trunk. The autistic children are more vulnerable to damage and physical punishment more often suffers from serious forms of injuries such as head trauma or fractures. **Aim of the study:** The study aimed to assess the patterns of exposure to physical punishment and its effect on autistic child. **Research design:** A descriptive design was utilized in carrying out this study. **Setting & Sample size:** Apurposive sample of 169 children suffering from autism and their mothers were attending the Out -Patient Child Clinic at Institute of Psychiatric Center, Out-Patient Child Psychiatric Clinic at Ain Shams University Hospital, Institute of Childhood Studies that affiliated to Ain Shams University and Abbasyia Psychiatric Mental Hospital. **Tools:** Interviewing Questionnaire Sheet was composed **Tool I:** Pre-Designed Questionnaire Sheet, **Tool II:** Mothers' Reported Practices Assessment Sheet, **Tool III:** Child's Assessment Sheet, **Tool IV:** Mothers' Patterns of Punishment toward their Autistic Children and its Effect, **Tool V:** Burden Interview Questionnaire Scale, **Tool VI:** Coping Inventory Scale. **Results:** It was found that, more than one third of the studied children were suffering from moderate degree of autism, less than half of the studied mothers had poor level of knowledge about autism, more than half of the studied mothers had poor level of reported practices regarding care for their autistic children. In addition almost majority of the studied mothers used physical punishment with their children. **Conclusion:** It was concluded that, majority of studied mothers used physical punishment with their children, used their hand beating to punish their children while minority of them used non - physical punishment. Also, near two-thirds of the studied children had negative effects due to punishment. **Recommendation:** The study recommended with conducting the practical training programs for families having children with ASD to be focuse on another methods than punishment for behavior modification techniques.

Key words: Autism, Children, Physical Punishment, Burden Effect.

Introduction

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by deficits in social communication, social interaction and the presence of restricted, repetitive behaviors. Social communication deficits include impairments in aspects of joint attention and social reciprocity, as well as challenges in the use of verbal and nonverbal communicative behaviors for social interaction. Restricted, repetitive behaviors, interests or activities are manifested by stereotyped, repetitive speech, motor movement or use of objects, inflexible adherence to routines, restricted interests and hyperactive- and/or hyposensitivity to sensory input (**Parr et al., 2015**).

Globally worldwide, in 2000 the numbers of children affected were estimated at 1–2 per 1,000 children. In the developed countries, in 2015 24.8 million children affect autism. Meanwhile, about 1.5% of children are diagnosed with ASD in 2017, ASDs occurs four to five times more in boys than girls (**Ornoy et al., 2015**).

Autism appears to result from developmental impairment factors that affect many or all-functional brain systems and to disturb the timing of brain development more than the final product. It strongly suggested that autism's mechanism includes alteration of brain development soon after conception. This anomaly appears to start a cascade of pathological events in the brain that significantly influenced by environmental factors (**Sohn et al., 2015**).