

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES FOR TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSIS OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER IN YOUNG CHILDREN

Presenter: Jennifer Sanderson, Psy.D.

Friday, May 13, 2016 ♦ 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Currently, one in every 68 children in the United States is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2015). The estimated lifetime costs associated with ASD are around 2.5 million dollars (Buescher, Cidav, Knapp, & Mandell, 2014). Effective early intervention for children with ASD can significantly reduce these lifetime costs, as well as improve developmental outcomes (National Institute of Mental Health, n.d.). However, early intervention requires early diagnosis of ASD, which in turn relies on a broader recognition and understanding of ASD. With prevalence rates for ASD on the rise, generally trained healthcare professionals are likely to encounter individuals with ASD in routine clinical practice. Because of the overlap in symptomatology and high comorbidity of ASD and other mental health issues, mental health practitioners may be especially likely to encounter children whose behavioral, emotional, social, and learning difficulties relate to ASD. However, specialized coursework and clinical training regarding ASD in the various mental health degree programs remains rare. Mental health professionals, regardless of their specialty, require some knowledge and training in identification and assessment of ASD symptoms in order to accurately diagnose or refer to specialized professionals for more in-depth evaluation. Likewise, mental health professionals must also possess at least basic knowledge in evidence-based practices for working with children with ASD and their families. This presentation seeks to bridge the gap by providing knowledge and practical tools to mental health professionals about working with young children with ASD and their families.

This presentation is geared towards intermediate to advanced mental health practitioners (psychologists, psychiatrists, clinical social workers, and mental health counselors) seeking further knowledge and tools for managing the increasingly frequent presentation of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in general clinical settings.

ABOUT THE PRESENTER

Jennifer Sanderson, Psy.D. is a clinical psychologist with specialized experience and training in the diagnosis and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), developmental disabilities, and related behavioral, social, and learning difficulties. She is passionate about providing evidence-based treatment, and enjoys training, coaching, supporting, and consulting with parents, families, and professionals. Dr. Sanderson completed her doctoral degree in clinical psychology at Nova Southeastern University, after obtaining bachelor's degrees in psychology and Spanish from University of Florida. Her graduate clinical training included working with children and families at Easter Seals and the UM Mailman Center for Child Development. She completed an APA-accredited clinical psychology internship specializing in developmental disabilities at the UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, followed by an additional two-year psychology fellowship in UCLA's highly acclaimed PEERS[®] Clinic. While at UCLA, Dr. Sanderson co-developed an evidence-based social skills intervention for preschool-aged children with ASD known as PEERS[®] for Preschoolers, and provided evidence-based social skills treatments for children, adolescents, and young adults with ASD and other social challenges. Lastly, Dr. Sanderson completed specialized postdoctoral training in the diagnosis and treatment of ASD in young children at Nova Southeastern University's Mailman Segal Center for Human Development. She has presented locally, nationally, and internationally, and has published articles in both popular and scientific media. Currently, she works at Florida Atlantic University's Center for Autism and Related Disabilities. Dr. Sanderson also directs the Autism Clinic at Nicole Valdes, Ph.D. and Associates, P.A., providing diagnostic and treatment services for children and adults with ASD and their families. Finally, she has served as an adjunct professor at both Nova Southeastern University and Florida Atlantic University, developing and teaching graduate courses in developmental disabilities, child development, and applied behavior analysis.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:

- Analyze updated information regarding the prevalence, etiology, and popular misconceptions of ASD
- Compile knowledge regarding the clinical presentation of ASD in young children
- Discuss exposure to evidence-based early intervention treatment models
- Explain familiarity with best practices for screening and diagnosis of ASD in young children
- Assess practical tools for working with children and families and reducing barriers to optimal outcomes

PROGRAM AGENDA

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration and refreshments
9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Evidence-based treatment of ASD in young children: Exploring treatment models and overcoming barriers to treatment success
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Recognizing ASD in clinical settings and utilizing effective screening and diagnostic tools

PROGRAM LOCATION

Nova Southeastern University
College of Psychology
Maltz Building, Room 2057
3301 College Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33314

For maps and directions to the Maltz Building, please visit our web site at <http://www.nova.edu/cwis/campusmaps/maincampus.html>. Telephone directions to the main campus are available 24 hours a day by calling (954) 262-1563.

For additional information on continuing education policies, please visit our web site at <http://psychology.nova.edu/continuingeducation/index.html>

CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION

Psychologists: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Nova Southeastern University maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Clinical social workers, mental health counselors, and marriage and family therapists: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the state of Florida's Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, and Mental Health Counseling to offer continuing education. Provider number: BAP# 330, Exp. 03/31/17

School psychologists: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the state of Florida's Board of Medical Therapies/Psychology, Office of School Psychology, to offer continuing education. Provider number: SCE# 11, Exp. 11/30/17.

Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists to offer continuing education for school psychologists. Nova Southeastern University maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Provider# 1024

Professional counselors: Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 4548. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.

All mental health professionals will receive 3 continuing education credits for the workshop. Full attendance is required. No partial credit will be awarded. Check your licensing state's rules and regulations for more information regarding your continuing education requirements.

Nova Southeastern University is committed to making its programs accessible to all prospective attendees. Let us know if you have specific requirements due to a disability.

ABOUT THE SPONSOR

Nova Southeastern University's College of Psychology is dedicated to providing high-quality training, education, research, and service its students and to the community. The college offers two American Psychological Association (APA)-accredited doctoral programs (Ph.D. and Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology); a specialist and a doctoral program in school psychology; master's degree programs in mental health counseling, school counseling, counseling, forensic psychology, experimental psychology, and general psychology; and bachelor's degree programs in psychology and behavioral neuroscience. The College of Psychology has two APA accredited doctoral internship programs, the South Florida Consortium Internship Program and the Psychology Services Center Internship program.

NOTICES OF ACCREDITATION, MEMBERSHIP, AND NONDISCRIMINATION

Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees. The university is chartered by the State of Florida. The College of Psychology Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association. The College of Psychology Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association. The College of Psychology has two APA accredited doctoral internship programs, the South Florida Consortium Internship Program and the Psychology Services Center Internship program. Questions related to the programs' accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation: Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, American Psychological Association, 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, D.C., 20002-4242, Phone: (202) 336-5979, Email: apaaccred@apa.org, Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation. The college's master's degree program in school counseling and specialist and doctoral programs in school psychology are approved by the Florida Department of Education. In addition, the specialist program in school psychology holds the designation of National Recognition by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The College of Psychology offers two programs, (1) the M.S. in School Counseling and (2) the Psy.S. in School Psychology, for practitioners in P-12 schools that have been accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The accreditation for these programs is awarded to the university through the Fischler School of Education as follows: The Fischler School of Education at Nova Southeastern University is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), www.ncate.org. This accreditation covers initial teacher preparation programs and advanced educator preparation programs at all university locations and online. However, the accreditation does not include individual education courses that the institution offers to P-12 educators for professional development, relicensure, or other purposes.

Nova Southeastern University admits students of any race, color, sex, age, nondisqualifying disability, religion or creed, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school, and does not discriminate in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

