

## Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (ADOS-2)

- 1) **Nature of the intervention:** The Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition is a semi-structured, standardized observation of children and adults referred for ASD. The ADOS has five modules, only one of which is administered at a given time based on the individual's verbal level (from no words to fluent speech) and/or age (from 12 months through adulthood). Each ADOS-2 module consists of semi-structured talking- and/or play-based activities using standardized materials; total administration time is 30-60 minutes. Item scores on a 0-3 scale, with higher scores indicating greater symptom severity, are assigned immediately after completing the administration. Raw scores of items from a "Social Affect" and a "Restricted Repetitive Behavior" algorithm domain are summed and applied to cut-offs to yield the classification. Diagnostic algorithms have strong predictive validity against best estimate clinical diagnoses.
  
- 2) **Training Details:** All workshops are held at New York-Presbyterian Hospital's 214 acre Westchester Division campus, located at 21 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, NY 10605.
  - ❖ The ADOS-2 Introductory/Clinical training is a two day workshop which uses a lecture format to introduce people to the basic principles of administering and scoring ADOS-2 modules (1-4). This training provides an essential step toward competence in using the ADOS-2 in everyday clinical practice. This workshop serves as a pre-requisite for more thorough training required to obtain research reliability needed to use the ADOS-2 for research purposes. All trainees are expected to have prior training in modules 1 - 4 of the ADOS/ADOS-2.
  - ❖ The ADOS-2 Toddler training is one day introductory workshop specific to the Toddler Module with instructional methods that include lectures, videos, demonstrations of administration and scoring, and discussions.
  - ❖ The Advanced/Research Training is a two and a half days workshop and involves more intensive instruction on psychometrics of the instrument, working in small groups on administering and scoring the ADOS-2, and discussion and question/answer about specific administration and coding issues. Prior to attending training, you will need to have access to an ADOS-2 manual and kit. You will also need to make two DVD recordings of yourself administering two different ADOS-2 modules (Toddler, 1 or 2 and 3 or 4), to bring with you to the training workshop so we may review them and provide you with general feedback summaries. This pre-course step applies toward achieving reliability and in turn, also prepares you for your post course reliability tape submissions. After the workshop, you will be provided with DVD administrations of the ADOS-2 and scored protocols to view and score for reliability. You will then send CADB two post course DVD recordings of yourself administering different ADOS-2 modules and respective scored protocols within three months of your training.

- a. Trainings are run by Ph.D. or M.D. level clinicians with extensive experience using the ADOS-2 for clinical and research purposes.
  - b. 25 - 50 trainees can be accommodated per training depending on the specific workshop. Although there are no minimal necessary educational requirements, ADOS-2 users should have prior education, training and experience in conducting individually administered test batteries and should have a background and experience in the assessment of ASD.
  - c. The Center for Autism and the Developing Brain (CADB) offers trainings 1-2 times per year. The trainings are held at New York-Presbyterian Hospital's 214 acre Westchester Division campus, located at 21 Bloomingdale Road, White Plains, NY 10605.
  - d. Please view our FAQ document attached or visit <http://www.cornellpsychiatry.org/education/autism.html>
  - e. An ADOS-2 manual can be purchased from Western Psychological Services at (800) 648-8857 or at [www.wpspublish.com](http://www.wpspublish.com). ***Note: Dr. Catherine Lord, along with the other authors of the instruments and training packages, receives royalties when people purchase ADI-R materials.***
- 3) **Evidence-base for the intervention:** Both original and revised algorithms (see Gotham, Risi, Pickles, & Lord, 2007) show strong predictive validity, with the revised set of algorithms showing better specificity in lower-functioning populations. Because of its strong discriminant validity, the ADOS-2 is widely used in international clinical and research efforts. It is useful in standardized clinical observation, but must be considered in conjunction with a developmental history and clinical judgment of an experienced clinician.
- 4) **Provisions for cultural adaptation:** International or other applicants interested in using a translated version of the ADOS-2, please check with WPS to find publishers in your country or to obtain an authorized research translation in your language, [www.wpspublish.com](http://www.wpspublish.com). For further assistance or to initiate a translation, please contact Dr. Kristin Ratliff at [kratliff@wpspublish.com](mailto:kratliff@wpspublish.com) at WPS.
- 5) **Contact information:** For additional information please contact CADB's Training Coordinator Marcella Bello at [mab9254@med.cornell.edu](mailto:mab9254@med.cornell.edu).