

Autism Speaks Intervention Training Portfolio
Rady Children's Autism Discovery Institute
The Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, Second Edition (ADOS-2)

1. Nature of the Assessment

- a. Name: Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, Second Edition (ADOS – 2), Lord, Rutter, DiLavore, Risi, Gotham, Bishop, Luyster, and Guthrie.
- b. The ADOS – 2, is a standardized diagnostic measure designed for both clinical and research use. This measure provides a standardized set of materials and activities as well as a series of coded behaviors targeting symptoms of an autism spectrum disorder. The ADOS – 2 includes five different modules that were developed to address the developmental changes in autism spectrum disorders over time. The most appropriate module to administer is based on age and language level and range from a Toddler Module through Module 4, which is designed for older adolescents and adults. ADOS – 2 Training involves a clinical training, which is two days for the ADOS – 2 and an additional day for the Toddler Module. The ADOS – 2 also involves a Research Training, which includes 2 ½ additional days of hands on practice in administration and scoring. In order to reach reliability for research purposes, the research training and additional post – course work following the research training is required. Post course work includes watching and scoring videotapes of the ADOS – 2 and administering, videotaping and scoring the ADOS – 2 and then submitting it for comparison coding.
- c. The ADOS – 2, is a standardized diagnostic measure designed for both clinical and research use. It is considered the gold standard in research protocols and is the most commonly used standardized diagnostic measure in research protocols. It has strong psychometric properties, including reliability and validity.
- d. Materials include an in-depth manual for professionals describing the measure, the psychometric properties of the measure, and detailed administration and scoring instructions.
- e. Materials also include example videotapes, corresponding sample scored protocols, and redacted samples of written summaries of the ADOS-2. Information on determining fidelity of administration is also included in the training.

2. Training Details

- a. Trainer: Our trainers are PhD level psychologists with over 10 years of experience in training others on the ADOS as well as working with children with autism and their families. Trainers have reached reliability and have been trained as trainers by the first author of the ADOS – 2, Dr. Catherine Lord and her team and use the ADOS – 2 in practice.
- b. Trainees: Trainees include professionals.
 - i. Professionals: Training is offered to professionals wishing to use the ADOS- 2 in clinical practice or in research settings. For those wishing to use the measure clinically, the training on the ADOS – 2 is two days with an additional day for the Toddler Module. This workshop is designed for professionals with prior experience in assessment and with a background in autism spectrum disorders, such as speech and language pathologists, occupational therapists, physicians, and psychologists.
- c. Frequency and location of training: Professional workshops are offered annually on site and can also be conducted at the trainees' site upon request. Clinical workshops are 2 days in length and involve didactic training and the use of video examples. Research

trainings are an additional 2 ½ days and include role play as well as practice with feedback. Ongoing supervision (locally or at a distance) can be arranged individual.

- d. Manual: The training manual and test kit are available through Western Psychological Services at wpspublish.com.com Materials include an in-depth manual on the ADOS-2 and the ADOS kit.
3. Evidence-base for the intervention: State-of-the-art research in ASD calls for including a standardized observational measure in the assessment. Several studies have demonstrated the utility of the ADOS in clinical and research populations (Lord, et. al., 2007; Risi, et. al., 2007; Gotham, et. al., 2007; Corsello, et. al., 2012), with information available on how well the measure differentiates within subgroups, including very young children and those with significant delays in development.
4. Provisions for Cultural Adaptation: Our psychologists are trained to adapt the training to meet the needs of professionals working with children from varied backgrounds.
5. Contact Information: Interested parents and professionals can contact the Autism Discovery Institute at Rady Children’s Hospital, San Diego. The cost of training workshops at our site is \$500 per person for the initial two day workshop, \$350 for the one day workshop on the Toddler module, \$2750 per person for the 2 1/2 day research training and \$200 per hour for video review. Cost of training at other sites is \$1750/day for up to 5 trainees plus travel costs.