

Medical and Sensory-Related Therapies for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder Risk of Bias Form

1. Did the study employ a group design?

Yes No

2. Were the groups randomly assigned?

Yes No Comments _____

3. Was there an appropriate comparison group?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

4. If an RCT, was randomization done correctly?

Yes No NR NA (non-RCT)

Comments _____

5. Was a valid diagnostic approach for ASD used within the study, or were referred participants diagnosed using a valid approach?

A. clinical DSM-IV/5-based diagnosis + ADI-R and/or ADOS

B. [clinical DSM-IV/5-based diagnosis + other] OR [ADOS + other, such as SRS, CARS, SCQ, CAST, ASSQ, OR STAT, MCHAT for under 30 months]

C. Only clinical DSM-IV/5-based diagnosis OR Only ADOS

D. Neither clinical DSM-IV/5-based diagnosis NOR ADOS

Comments _____

6. Was the sample clearly characterized (e.g., information provided to characterize participants in terms of impairments associated with their ASD, such as cognitive or developmental level)?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

7. Were inclusion and exclusion criteria clearly stated?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

8. Do the authors report attrition?

Yes No Comments _____

9. Were characteristics of drop-out group evaluated for differences with the participant group as a whole?

Yes No or NR NA or minimal attrition

Comments _____

10. Was the intervention fully described?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

11. For behavioral/non-medical studies, was treatment fidelity monitored in a systematic way?

Yes No or NR NA

Comments _____

12. Did the authors measure and report adherence to the intended treatment process?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

13. Did the authors report differences in or hold steady all concomitant interventions?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

14. Did outcome measures demonstrate adequate reliability and validity (including interobserver reliability for behavior observation coding)?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

15. Were the primary & secondary outcomes clearly specified a priori?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

16. Were outcome data collected from sources appropriate to the target outcome (e.g. parent report, teacher report, direct behavior observation)?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

17. Were outcomes coded by individuals blinded to the intervention status of the participants?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

18. Was an appropriate statistical analysis used?

Yes No Comments _____

19. a. For RCTs, was there an intent-to-treat analysis?

Yes No NA

Comments _____

20. b. For negative studies, was a power calculation provided?

Yes No NA

Comments _____

21. c. Did the study correct for multiple testing?

Yes No NA

Comments _____

22. d. For observational studies, were potential confounders and effect measure modifiers captured?

Yes No NA

Comments _____

23. e. For observational studies, were potential confounders and effect measure modifiers handled appropriately?

Yes No NA

Comments _____

24. Were outcomes measured in at least one context outside of the treatment setting?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

25. Were outcomes measured in natural environments to assess generalization?

Yes No or NR Comments _____

26. Were follow-up measures of outcome conducted to assess maintenance of skills at least 3 months after the end of treatment?

Yes No or NR NA

Comments _____

27. Comments
