

# 'Assessment and treatment of ASD by psychologists' training DVD

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## **Day 1**

The morning of the first day will start with an explanation of the diagnostic criteria for autism and the three developmental trajectories in early childhood. The presenters will discuss the Level 1 and 2 screeners for autism, diagnostic instruments and diagnostic procedures including how to explain the diagnosis to parents. The afternoon will focus on the diagnosis of Asperger's syndrome, starting with the history of our conceptualization of Asperger's syndrome and a critical review of the DSM IV Diagnostic criteria. The presentation will provide practical information on assessing the dimensions of Asperger's syndrome, additional characteristics, the profile of abilities in girls and women and how to explain the diagnosis to a child or adult.

## **Day 2**

The second day will focus on the psychological treatment of children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder using as a structure the five dimensions of ASD namely

- Perspective taking
- Understanding and expressing emotions
- Fact orientation
- Sensory sensitivity
- Rigidity in thinking

The relevant theoretical models such as Theory of Mind and Weak Central Coherence will be explained and strategies that can be used by psychologists in clinical practice, in particular, modifications to CBT for emotion management and programs to improve social reasoning and friendship skills.

Endorsed for 14 hours of Specialist Continuing Professional Development for members of the following APS Colleges: CCLIN, CCOM, CCOUN, CEDP and CHP