





# Early Signs of Autism/Pervasive Developmental Disorder

Age	Disturbances of Speech/Language/Cognition	Disturbances in Relatedness
<b>Year 1 (0-12 months)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Monotonic Vocalizations</li> <li>➤ Limited communicative functions expressed by gestures/vocalizations</li> <li>➤ Limited range of gestures/vocalizations</li> <li>➤ Limited inventory and complexity of action schemes</li> <li>➤ Limited functional object use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Lack of or limited social smile</li> <li>➤ Limited or unusual eye contact</li> <li>➤ Lack of anticipation of social approaches</li> <li>➤ Lack of differential response to people</li> <li>➤ May note tiny changes in environment OR be totally oblivious to great changes</li> <li>➤ Limited shared positive affect</li> </ul>
<b>Year 2 (12-24 months)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ See ages 0-12 months (above)</li> <li>➤ Repetitive or odd play</li> <li>➤ Little exploration in play</li> <li>➤ May not develop meaningful words</li> <li>➤ May not use words to get needs/wants met</li> <li>➤ Limited meaningful gesturing</li> <li>➤ Limited response to simple commands</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ See ages 0-12 months (above)</li> <li>➤ Attachment to specific objects begins or becomes more pronounced</li> <li>➤ Resists changes in routine</li> <li>➤ May avoid being comforted when hurt</li> <li>➤ Standoffish manner</li> <li>➤ May choose to line up toys and/or spin them rather than play appropriately</li> </ul>
<b>Year 3 (24-36 months)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Immediate echolalia continues beyond normal limits</li> <li>➤ Delayed echolalia becomes apparent</li> <li>➤ Limited meaningful language</li> <li>➤ Generated sentences more limited than echoed ones</li> <li>➤ Odd voice quality</li> <li>➤ Use of words or phrases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Responses to changes in routine varies from vague distress to panic</li> <li>➤ May seem withdrawn or unaware of presence of others</li> <li>➤ May show extreme distress with separation from favorite object</li> <li>➤ Social play does not develop from parallel play</li> <li>➤ Shows limited awareness of the feelings of others</li> </ul>