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Neurodevelopmental substrates of autism and current trends in evidence-based treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs)

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Abstract

In this brain-based presentation, we will be discussing the cutting edge research on neurodevelopmental properties of Autism Spectrum Disorders with emphasis on the psychobiological basis of autism. Within this framework, the unique behaviors typical of autistic children and evidence-based treatments that work will be discussed with techniques for intervention and modalities through which effective retraining of the brain can be achieved. Significant advances in autism research will be presented as part of this presentation and issues specific to autism spectrum with regard to social skills training, neurodevelopmental re-training will be discussed. The goals are to highlight the advances in effective evidence-based treatment and optimize successful outcomes for children, teenagers and adults diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Biography

Kalyani Gopal is a licensed clinical psychologist with over 25 years of clinical experience in assessment and treatment of individuals with developmental disabilities, trauma, and severe mental illness. She is the Illinois Psychological Association Council Representative for the Severely Mentally Ill, current and past President of Div. 12-IV (Clinical Psychology of Women), American Psychological Association, and on the Lake County Child Protection and Child Fatality Teams. She received the Lake County Award for Outstanding Service to the Community in 2002. She consults extensively on issues related to special needs, is an international speaker on trauma, special needs diagnosis and treatment. She is the author of the bestseller, "The Supportive Foster Parent", and recently published, "Foster Parenting Step-by-Step: How to Nurture the Traumatized Child." She is an international speaker/trainer on Adoption, Foster Care, Sexual Abuse, Domestic Violence, and Attachment Disorders and coined the term Displacement Trauma.

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