EARLY CLINICAL SIGNS OF AUTISM : IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT AT THE REPUBLICAN CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION CENTER

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Autism Spectrum Disorder is a neurodevelopmental condition with early onset, characterized by impairments in social communication and the presence of restricted and repetitive behaviors. Early diagnosis is often delayed due to the various clinical manifestations and the lack of effective screening mechanisms. To analyze the early signs of ASD identified at RCRC and to evaluate the effectiveness of the center's screening, diagnostic, and intervention strategies and improve the developmental outcomes. The study included a sample of 48 children (aged 2–5 years) assessed at the Republican Children's Rehabilitation Center between march and June 2025 for suspected ASD. Diagnoses were established according to DSM-5 and ICD-10 criteria using standardized tools such as M-CHAT-R/F, ADOS-2, and structured clinical observation. 73% of the children met diagnostic criteria for ASD. The most frequently identified early signs included lack of eye contact (85%), absence of social gestures (71%), delayed speech development (79%), Hyporeactivity or hyperreactivity at sensory responses (66%), and repetitive behaviors (60%). Interventions initiated included behavioral therapy, speech therapy, sensory integration, and parental counseling. Children who received intervention within 10 days of identification showed significant improvements in social interaction and communication, as measured by individualized progress scales. We saw the benefit of early intervention. Early identification of Autism Spectrum Disorder at the RCRC significantly contributes to the implementation of effective, individualized interventions. Systematic screening, multidisciplinary evaluation, and family involvement are key components in optimizing child development outcomes.

NEONATAL GENETIC TESTING AND SCREENING, MEDICAL-BIOETHICAL APPROACH

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Neonatal genetic testing and screening have been the subject of intense debate due to their significant potential in the prevention and early treatment of genetic diseases. The bioethical complexity and medico-social implications of these practices have necessitated complex rigorous evaluation. Analysis of the medical-bioethical aspects of neonatal genetic testing and screening in the specialized literature to evaluate their benefits and challenges in medical practice. The study is based on the analysis of specialized literature, articles, as well as clinical case studies extracted from scientific and legislative databases such as PubMed, NCBI, Google Scholar, WHO. The investigation was carried out using a retrospective, descriptive analysis applying hermeneutic and comparative methods. The literature review highlighted a retrospective and descriptive study on a sample of 150 newborns genetically tested. It highlighted the fact that of the total cases analyzed, 82% allowed for early detection of genetic diseases. In the context of these data, the bioethical analysis highlighted challenges regarding informed consent and the confidentiality of genetic data, emphasizing ethical dilemmas related to the right of parents to choose, possible discrimination based on genetic data and challenges associated with the communication of genetic test results, with direct implications for clinical management and subsequent counseling. The results confirmed the initial hypothesis, indicating the clear clinical benefits of neonatal genetic testing and screening, as well as significant bioethical complexity. Guidelines for effective genetic counseling in the medico-bioethical context need to be developed and implemented.