

Request for Public Comment on IACC 2016 Strategic Plan for ASD – List of Themes

Question 1: Diagnosis and Screening	
Subgroups	Need better recognition and diagnosis of subgroups
Early Signs/Symptoms	Need better understanding of early signs and symptoms
Family Support (Post Diagnosis)	Families need emotional support following diagnosis and assistance in navigating access to services
Sex/Gender Disparities	Improve accuracy and awareness of diagnosis of females
Screening/Diagnosis Tools (Accuracy/Usability)	Improvements in the accuracy and usability of screening and diagnosis tools
Biomarkers	Need greater research and identification of biomarkers, and use of these biomarkers in screening and diagnosis
Adult/Adolescent Diagnosis	Need improvements in access and accuracy of adult and adolescent diagnosis
Genetic Screening	Need more and increased access to genetic screening
Cultural/Racial/Regional Disparities	Need to address the multifaceted disparities in diagnosis across racial, cultural, socioeconomic, and regional lines
Greater/Lesser Early Screening/Diagnosis	Need to increase/decrease early screening and diagnosis of ASD in children
Faster Diagnosis	Need to reduce the time to diagnosis by improving service access and diagnostic tools/process
Link Diagnosis to Services	Need to strengthen link between initial diagnosis and access to services and interventions
Parent Education	Parents and caregivers need greater education so that they can recognize signs and symptoms
Parent Concerns	Practitioners need to listen to and consider parent concerns about early signs and symptoms
Universal Screening	Universal screening for ASD is needed
Practitioner Training (Diagnosis/Screening)	Workforce development, including access to qualified practitioners and improvements in the training of the existing workforce
Endorse Current Priorities	Current priorities are appropriate (diagnosis and screening tools, early signs, symptoms and biomarkers, identification of subgroups, disparities in diagnosis)
Question 5: Services	
Early Intervention Services	Access to early intervention services is a priority