



Review

Effects of EEG examination and ABA-therapy on resting-state EEG in children with low-functioning autism

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Supplementary Information

Our test was based on the Information for Parents and Professionals on Behavioral Indicators of Tactile Defensiveness (http://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Tactile_Defensiveness.pdf):

1. Avoidance Responses to Touch Stimulation

- Avoidance of certain styles or textures of clothing (e.g. scratchy or rough); or conversely an unusual preference for certain styles or textures of clothing (e.g. soft materials, long sleeved shirts)
- Avoidance of contact with other children, e.g. preference for standing at the end of line during assembly, staying at the edge of a group during story time etc.
- Avoidance of anticipated touch or from interactions involving touch, e.g. tendency to pull away or avoidance of touch to the face
- Avoidance of play activities involving tactile materials (e.g. sand, finger paints) or body contact, with a tendency to prefer solitary play
- Avoidance of going barefoot, especially in sand and grass (could result in tip-toe walking)
- Avoidance of a crowded environment, likes to stay under the table, behind the settee or under the staircase

2. Aversive Responses to Non-Painful Touch

- Aversion or struggle when picked up, hugged or cuddled
- Aversion to certain daily living tasks, e.g. having showers, cutting fingernails and hair and face washing
- Aversion to dental care and/or brushing teeth
- Aversion to being handled during daily activities, e.g. changing nappy or clothes, cleaning nose or face
- Aversion to being approached from behind. May rub skin or scratch area being touched

3. Emotional Responses to Touch Stimulation

- Becomes anxious and distressed when being physically close to people, e.g. during assembly, inside the dining hall, etc.
- Refusal to participate in certain social activities, e.g. going to a party or supermarket
- Responding verbally or with physical aggression to light touch to arms, face or legs, e.g. lashing out
- Objection, withdrawal or negative responses to touch contact, including that encountered in the context of intimate relationship even in a friendly or affectionate manner. A tendency to prefer to touch rather than to be touched. Some children may seek firm touch in order to modulate the level of defensiveness.



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