

# Etiological Study Of Autism and Assessment By ISAA(Indian Scale For Assessment Of Autism) For Diagnosis Of Autism Spectrum Disorder In Children at Hi-Tech Medical College and Hospital,Bhubaneswar

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BACKGROUND: Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) usually presents in early developmental period, in children less than 3 years usually with poor social relations, verbal and nonverbal communications and restricted and repetitive behaviour[1]. The prevalence of ASD is increasing rapidly, especially in urban population of developed as well as developing nations. According to recent database, Every 1 in 68 children are diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, leading to a considerable health care and economic burden on society[2][3].ASD is multifactorialCombined interaction of genetic and environmental factors has been proposed as the possible neuropathogenesis mechanism underlying ASD.Recently DSM V criteria have combined under a single roof all the autistic disorders including Asperger syndrome and pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise satisfied[4].Autistic children are more likely to have hyperactivity, inattention, sleep abnormalities epilepsy, as compared and to general population.INCLEN(INDT-ASD) tool and ISAA are commonly used in India for diagnosing and calculating severity of autism for disability certification in our country[5][6]. The other tools for Autism assessment are Childhood Autism Rating Scale (CARS), Autism Behaviour Checklist (ABC), Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA), M-(modified Check CHAT List for autism)[7][8].Onset of ASD symptoms typically occurs by age 3yr, although symptoms may not fully manifest until school age or later, and some research suggests symptoms can emerge between 6 and 18months of age. More severely affected children are more likely to be identified and reliably diagnosed at younger ages than milder cases. Early markers of autism are no babbling by 12months, not waving bye-bye by 12 months, no by single words 16 months, no two-

wordspontaneous (not just echolalia) phrases by 24 months and loss of any language or social skills at any age[9].

**Keywords:** Autism Spectrum Disorder; ISAA; Applied Behavioural Analysis; Social Communication and Interaction

# I. OBJECTIVE:

To determine the diagnostic validity and accuracy of Indian Scale for Assessment of Autism (ISAA) in children aged 1.5-9 year at high risk of autism, and to ascertain the level of agreement with Childhood Autism Rating Scale (CARS) and INCLEN(INDT-ASD)[10][11].

Design: Diagnostic and Accuracy study

Setting: Tertiary-level hospital(Hi-Tech Medical College & Hospital)

Duration:From Jan 2019 to Aug 2019

Participants: Children aged between 1.5 and 9 year and considered to be at a high risk for autism (delayed development, and age-inappropriate cognition, speech, social interaction, behaviour or play) were recruited. Those with diagnosed Hearing impairment, Cerebral palsy, Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or Pervasive developmental disorders (PDD) were excluded.

### **II. METHODS:**

Eligible children underwent a comprehensive assessment according to assessment of different parameters of ISAAtool and results were compared to the INCLEN(INDT-ASD) and CARS scoring.

# III. RESULT & STATISTICAL ANALYSIS:



Out of 39 eligible children attending Paediatric Neurology OPD between Jan2019 to Aug2019, 27(69.2%) were Autistic Out of which 17(62.9%)/ were Mild Autistic and 10(37.03%) were moderately Autistic. From this study the Sensitivity of ISAA is 90% and Specificity is 77.7%. The Positive predictive value is 0.93 and the Negative predictive value is 0.7as compared to INCLEN-INTD.



# **IV. CONCLUSIONS:**

The reliability and validity of ISAA for diagnosis and assessment for severity of Autism is good. The role of ISAA in 1.5 -9 year old children at high risk for Autism is limited to identifying and certifying Autism at ISAA score of 70.

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