

Causes of childhood autism in plain sight?

Current research; potentials for the development of homeopathic methodologies in the treatment of Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

Background

A 2021 literature review of (generally unrecognised) causations of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) offers credible evidence describing reasons for the escalation of ASD globally. Due to the considerable health, financial and social burdens overwhelming health and education services, utilising this data within the ASD community is imperative.

Other than early intervention with speech and behavioural therapies, there is no recognised treatment, cure, or prevention strategy for ASD. There is an urgent need for knowledge of causations to be more prominent, engendering greater understanding and management of ASD.

Aim

To use research data to increase the effectiveness of homeopathic treatment for ASD. Through ascertaining causes and identifying obstacles to cure from the literature, homeopaths can develop pathways to use targeted ASD treatments. Additionally, current research can inform homeopaths on how to educate families about protecting their future children from developing ASD.

Method

An overview of the current range of modalities used for ASD is presented, including a perspective of the role homeopathy plays in ASD treatment. The research creates an indisputable need for provings of causative elements such as medications and environmental agents, making ASD symptom patterns more recognisable and attributable to their cause. An exploration of how data can be applied to unresponsive cases, compelling case histories to extend from prenatal maternal history to one year postnatally.

Discussion

Successful ASD treatment presents significant challenges for homeopaths, due to the diversity of symptoms and understanding causation(s) in each case. The review identifies directions for future homeopathic research, including understanding the environmental and iatrogenic impacts on the neurological development of children from preconception onwards. These research findings could support homeopaths in formulating treatments for difficult ASD cases. Additionally, utilising recent data, homeopaths can educate families about ASD prevention strategies.

Key Words:

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), causations, homeopathy, prevention, provings