



Importance of the occupational therapist's performance with family members of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)

  10.56238/homeinternationalanais-033

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Keywords: Autism, Approach, Family, Child.

1 INTRODUCTION

Autism Spectrum Disorder is described as "a neurodevelopmental disorder, where the child manifests difficulties in communication, social participation and also presents restricted and repetitive behaviors" (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 2014). there are many approaches applied to this public, however, highlighting the family in this process is very important in clinical practice and in its effectiveness. The diagnosis of autism, as well as its symptoms, can cause impacts and difficulties in the family context. Family-centered care Its characteristic is "care focused not only on the child as a unique individual, but also on the family of which he/she is part of that care, and it is fundamental in the well-being and development of the child" (Shields, 2015). a positive relationship with the family and an environment free of criticism, providing teaching on aspects of personal care and education before the relationships and difficulties of these children, improving interaction with them.

2 METHODOLOGY

This is a literature review, developed with articles published from 2015 to 2020 in the databases: Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO) and Google Scholar, using the descriptors: autism, children, family and occupational therapy in Portuguese and English.

3 CONCLUSION

The work of the Occupational Therapist together with the family is a positive resource in the evolution of the treatment of these children, as the professional understands that the family understands their needs broadly, helping in decision-making, guidance and choices, and is essential in their development, so the family should be considered a central factor in the interventions, as this care contributes



to reducing stress, improving family relationships, increasing the effectiveness of care and satisfaction. In this way, introducing parents to this service is a resource that increases the chances of positive results from the treatment, continuity at home and, consequently, the child's evolution.



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