

DEVELOPING GLOBAL CONSENSUS ON A RESEARCH DEFINITION FOR PROFOUND AUTISM

Utilizing the Delphi Method

- 01 Meets the diagnostic criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- 02 Is at least 8 years old, acknowledging that some characteristics consistent with profound autism are evident earlier.
- 03 Requires adult supervision, exceeding age-appropriate levels, to ensure physical and mental health, safety, and well-being (due to risks such as elopement, injury, or lack of environmental awareness).
- 04 Demonstrates adaptive functioning skills significantly below age level, with an inability to independently perform most activities of daily living (e.g. bathing, food preparation, dressing)
- 05 Severely impaired cognitive abilities, reflected by IQ under 50 and/or does not verbally communicate other than single words or fixed phrases, and communicates predominantly only to have their basic needs met.
- 06 These characteristics are neither intermittent nor transient and persist across different environmental settings and situations



203.001 - Developing a Consensus-Based Global Research Definition of Profound Autism

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