

Autism Speaks ATN/AIR-P Guide to Providing Feedback to Families Affected by Autism

Parents never forget the feedback session as receiving a diagnosis of autism for their child can be a very stressful and overwhelming experience. However, while this is a difficult diagnosis to provide to a family, a well-run feedback session may also be a positive experience. The feedback session is often a crucial touchstone on the journey of having a child with a disability. Effective communication between the clinician and the family can lead to parents feeling supported and empowered to use the information that they receive to begin to address their children's needs.

[A Clinician's Guide to Providing Effective Feedback to Families Affected by Autism](#) and the [accompanying videos](#) are designed to provide health care professionals with instructional support for leading a productive diagnostic feedback session. The manual and videos focus on **all** aspects of providing information about a diagnosis of autism - verbal, written and body language.

While the manual and videos primarily target psychology trainees who are giving an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis to families, the principles involved apply to all clinicians who deliver evaluation results, diagnoses and/or treatment recommendations to their clients. Good feedback practices are universal and apply to clinicians in other professions including pediatricians, speech/language therapists, occupational therapists and physical therapists.

It is the writers' hope that the feedback videos and materials will be widely disseminated and promote thoughtful discussion about how best to give families critical information when their children receive a difficult diagnosis.

[Click here to download A Clinician's Guide to Providing Effective Feedback to Families Affected by Autism.](#)

Click the link below to view the video:

<http://www.autismspeaks.org/science/find-resources-programs/autism-treatment-network/tools-you-can-use/atn-air-p-guide-providing-feedback-families>

