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NEWS IN BRIEF

Autism - The silent grabber of children

Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network conducts active surveillance of ASD among children living in the areas under 11 ADDM sites across United States. In a recently published report, according to ADDM Network one in 44 children aged ≤ 8 years were identified to have ASD, the incidence of which has increased markedly from 1 in 54 children over two years period. Other important findings - ASD was 4.2

times more prevalent among boys as compared to girls while 35% children were having an intelligence quotient (IQ) score ≤ 70 . Children having ASD with IQ score ≤ 70 were diagnosed at an earlier age compared to those with IQ score > 70 .

Is this rise is a result of the early screening and referral or industrilization? As a primary care provider to the children / society we have to think about it.

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