



# A Practical Guide to Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, and Teacher Needs to Know

By Fred R. Volkmar, Lisa A. Wiesner

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Autism is in the public spotlight now more than ever as new research and information appears almost daily. Although in many ways this is a positive development it also presents challenges to families and practitioners who want to keep up with the latest developments and are left to sift through new information by themselves to see what is credible and relevant for them. Each of us needs a personal research assistant who can determine which information we need to pay attention to and let us know how it might affect our daily work and the children we are living with or serve.

Since we each don't have our own research assistants on staff, I am delighted to recommend this wonderful book by Fred Volkmar and Lisa Wiesner. Both of these talented professional leaders have combined their scientific skills and understanding of the field with great practical experience and ideas about how research can be translated into clinical practice. The result is a book that provides the best and most comprehensive information about recent scientific developments and a splendid practical guide for how they are being implemented and what we are learning in the process. The issues are presented in all of their complexity but translated into language that is clear, direct, and easy to follow. The format also lends itself to understanding the complex issues and their implications through excellent charts, question and answer sections, and chapters that vary from describing diagnostic issues to stating very specifically how to expand and evaluate the services one is receiving. The comprehensive references and lists of additional resources also add greatly to the overall package.

As a professional dedicated to understanding scientific advances and helping families and teachers to utilize them most effectively, I am very pleased to have an ally like this book available. I am very grateful to the authors for providing a very credible, practical, and relevant addition to our field to help the many advocates and family practitioners to better understand the exciting new developments and how they can be implemented in our day to day work. Those taking the time to read through this superb volume will find it time well spent that pays back dividends in many different ways.

—**FOREWORD by Gary B. Mesibov, Ph.D.**, Professor and Director of TEACCH, Treatment and Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"I am delighted to recommend this wonderful book by Fred Volkmar and Lisa Wiesner. Both of these talented professional leaders have combined their scientific skills and understanding of the field with great practical experience and ideas about how research can be translated into clinical practice. The result is a book that provides the best and most comprehensive information about recent scientific developments and a splendid practical guide for how they are being implemented and what we are learning in the process. The issues are presented in all of their complexity but translated into language that is clear, direct, and easy to follow." (*National Professional Resources, Inc.*)

"...these authors bring both comprehensive knowledge and compassion to this invaluable reference. They don't minimize the difficulties, but they offer clear, beautifully organized information - including a helpful Q-and-A section at the end of each chapter - that provides strategies that every parent can use. This is an important book that deserves an honored place in homes, schools, pediatricians' and psychologists' offices, and should make the path smoother for anyone whose life has been touched by autism." (*Education Update*, September 2009)

"To help parents understand the flood of information about autism, Pediatricians Volkmar and Wiesner present an accessible overview of all aspects of this high-profile disorder." (*Book News*, September 2009)

#### From the Back Cover

#### **Authoritative answers to everyday questions about living and learning with autism**

Filled with useful advice for parents and caregivers of children exhibiting autistic characteristics, *A Practical Guide to Autism* provides easy-to-access, reliable information regarding the selection of doctors, schools, services, and insurance, as well as day-to-day living in the family, school, and community.

Thorough and insightful, it presents lists of resources, both in print and on the Web—compiled by experts and reviewed by parents—for professionals and parents.

Written by Fred Volkmar, a leading authority on autism in the United States, and Lisa Wiesner, an experienced pediatrician with a special focus on pediatric autism, this timely guide provides reliable, accessible information and presents:

- Detailed background on autism and related Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs), including Asperger syndrome
- Sound approaches to screening for conditions like autism
- Helpful summaries such as "The 10 Most Preventable Health Problems" and "Five Questions to Ask Your Doctor at Every Visit"
- Practical information on complementary and alternative treatments
- Advice on evaluating school programs and services for children with autism
- Unique coverage of medical and dental care of children with autism

#### About the Author

**FRED R. Volkmar, MD**, is the Director of the Yale Child Study Center and coauthor of the *Handbook of Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Third Edition*, published by Wiley.

**LISA A. WIESNER, MD**, is a pediatrician in private practice in Orange, Connecticut. She is an assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at Yale who has research experience with autism.

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Book is usually written, printed, or highlighted for everything. You can understand everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As we know that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Close to that you can your reading ability was fluently. A guide A Practical Guide to Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, and Teacher Needs to Know will make you to end up being smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think this open or reading a new book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you trying to find best book or ideal book with you?

#### **David Marx:**

What do you about book? It is not important along? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what your own problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy man or woman? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have free time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They have to answer that question due to the fact just their can do that. It said that about guide. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is right. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this kind of A Practical Guide to Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, and Teacher Needs to Know to read.

#### **Brooke Gafford:**

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#### **James Pitts:**

Playing with family in the park, coming to see the water world or hanging out with buddies is thing that

usually you might have done when you have spare time, subsequently why you don't try factor that really opposite from that. A single activity that make you not experience tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love A Practical Guide to Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, and Teacher Needs to Know, you may enjoy both. It is great combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hang-out type is it? Oh seriously its mind hangout guys. What? Still don't buy it, oh come on its referred to as reading friends.

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