



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.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Angela Dreiling:

This book untitled A Practical Guide to Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, and Teacher Needs to Know to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, here is because when you read this publication you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this book in the book retailer or you can order it by means of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, as you can read this book in your Cell phone. So there is no reason to you personally to past this publication from your list.

Billy Anderson:

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Rosalie Castillo:

Is it you actually who having spare time in that case spend it whole day by watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something new? This A Practical Guide to Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, and Teacher Needs to Know can be the reply, oh how comes? It's a book you know. You are so out of date, spending your extra time by reading in this new era is common not a geek activity. So what these textbooks have than the others?

Ali Ellison:

As a college student exactly feel bored for you to reading. If their teacher expected them to go to the library or to make summary for some e-book, they are complained. Just little students that has reading's internal or real their interest. They just do what the professor want, like asked to the library. They go to generally there but nothing reading very seriously. Any students feel that reading through is not important, boring as well as can't see colorful pictures on there. Yeah, it is to get complicated. Book is very important to suit your needs. As we know that on this era, many ways to get whatever we would like. Likewise word says, ways to reach Chinese's country. Therefore this A Practical Guide to Autism: What Every Parent, Family Member, and

Teacher Needs to Know can make you really feel more interested to read.

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