

# **Autism Spectrum Disorders:** What Every PCP Should Know

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## **April 14, 2026**

12:00 - 1:00 P.M. CT

Virtual Meeting

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#### **Overview**

Primary Care Physicians currently demonstrate a significant gap in knowledge and clinical competence regarding the identification and management of mental health disorders in youth. This professional practice gap is primarily attributed to insufficient training and limited access to mental health resources. As a result, PCPs often serve as the first point of contact for families dealing with adolescent mental and behavioral health issues, yet they report lacking the necessary skills to effectively screen, assess, and treat conditions such as depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, and behavioral disorders. This series aims to enhance PCPs' capabilities in recognizing and managing mental health conditions to improve outcomes for youth within their clinical practice.

# **Learning Objectives**

At the conclusion of this activity, the participants should be able to:

- Describe the clinical presentation, screening, and diagnosis of autism in early and later childhood
- Describe strategies for management of an autistic child in the office
- Describe intervention strategies for a child with autism

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