

DEVELOPMENTAL & BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS

NEWSLETTER



A monthly newsletter for families of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics (DBP)
at Boston Medical Center

What's Happening?

SafetyNet Bill

There is currently a bill in the House of Representatives of Massachusetts which, if passed, will ensure that SafetyNet tracking systems are covered by insurance for all individuals of need. If you want to help families who could benefit from this, contact your state representatives and senators to vote in favor of bill H.980!



Free Tracking Device

Did you know that Angelsense is offering **free tracking devices** to families right now?

This promotion **does not** include monthly fees— contact the Autism Program if you need more assistance.

Learn more here:
www.angelsense.com

Fall Workshops

Are you looking for opportunities to hear, talk to, and learn from ASD professionals this fall? Check out these upcoming online workshops by clicking the event title below!

AANE (Aspergers/Autism Network):

- 9/18: **Autism & the IEP** for parents of autistic children, teens and young adults (7 to 8:30 PM)
- 9/25: **Strategies & Supports for Caregivers** of autistic children and Teens (6 to 7:30 PM)
- 9/28: **Understanding Disclosure & Importance** of psychological safety in the workplace (6:30 to 8 PM)

Lurie Center for Autism:

- 9/20: **The New Massachusetts IEP Form** - Supporting your Autistic Child in School (6:30 to 7:30 PM)

Registration is required for all events.



After-school Programs

There are many great after-school programs available for children with ASD. From after-school care to adaptive sports, check out some options below by clicking the program title!

- **Boys and Girls Club Dorchester:** This \$5/year after-school program runs from 2:30 PM to 6 PM everyday and is for children ages 7 to 12. Apply for membership [here](#)!
- **Franciscan Children's Adaptive Sports Program:** Offering ice hockey, skating, and track, this is a great program for any interested athletes! Financial aid is available.
- **Special Olympics:** Through Brookline Recreational Therapy, SOMA is offering free adaptive flag football and cheerleading opportunities this fall season! Please note, athlete must be at least 6 years old to train and 8 years old to compete.

Back to School: Disclosure

It's officially back to school, which can bring up questions on whether you should, or in what possible way, disclose your child's ASD diagnosis to their classmates. We chose two insightful articles to share with you this month to help explore and navigate through this decision.

This article from AANE shares the experience of a 10-year-old girl disclosing to her classmates after learning about her diagnosis. It talks about the different ways of disclosure that worked for her as well as some tips that were helpful to her.

This article from Different Brains shares an interview with Dr. Stephen Shore, an autism self-advocate, author, and professor of Special Education. He talks through his own advice and tips, including the "4 Steps of Disclosure".

Feel free to also utilize the "I Have Autism" Cards attached to this email. If you have any questions about disclosure, contact the Autism Program— we are here to support you!

ASD Podcasts & Episode Highlight!

What are we listening to right now? Click each cloud to find out!



Episode 85
*Talking Surf
Therapy with
Gnome Surf*

Uniquely Human



**Season 4
Episode 10**
*On getting a
Teen Diagnosis
and more...*

The SquarePeg Podcast



Episode 61
*Parenting
Pathological
Demand
Avoidance*

The Neurodiverging Podcast
with Danielle Sullivan

Resources



The Autism Program is continuing to support families in many ways both inside and outside of Boston Medical Center. Check out our website to learn more about the services, supports and programs we offer including our Autism Friendly Hospital Initiative, Teens Engaged as Mentors (TEAM) program, and our training offerings. We also have a huge resource library where you can access free information on a variety of topics such as safety, behavioral support, transition to adulthood, insurance and more!

<https://www.bmc.org/pediatrics-autism-program>

Do you have an idea for a future newsletter? Email us at.

autismprogram@bmc.org

with suggestions.

Clinic

Our clinicians are available for developmental evaluations, assessments and follow up. To connect with the clinical team, please call 617-414-4841 and follow the prompts for Developmental Pediatrics.

Our Clinicians

Marilyn Augustyn, MD
 Naomi Steiner, MD
 Arathi Reddy, DO
 Rachel Amgott, NP
 Christina Lazdowsky, NP
 Mei Elensary, MD
 Alyssa King, PhD
 Jocelyn Kuhn PhD
 Audrey Christiansen, MD
 Sarah Canale, MD
 Britany Weissman, MD
 Mary Ellen Killion, NP
 Arielle Spellun, MD
 Bridget Poznanski, PhD

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is brought to you by the Autism Program at Boston Medical Center, a family support program of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics. We are committed to supporting any family of DBP during this time, regardless of diagnosis. Please don't hesitate to reach out, and follow us on social media for more tips and information! **To unsubscribe, please reply by email with the word "stop!"**



BMC.org/autism
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The Autism Program at Boston Medical Center



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