



National Autism Center  
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# News

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## **National Autism Center Acknowledges UK Efforts to Establish a National Clinical Guideline for Autism**

*Cites Critical Need for Comprehensive Standards*

The National Autism Center today recognized the efforts of the Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN), which recently published a national clinical guideline entitled "Assessment, Diagnosis, and Clinical Interventions for Children and Young People with Autism Spectrum Disorders."

This reference guide for the United Kingdom represents an important step forward in evidence-based practice for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

The National Autism Center, through its leadership of a multi-year initiative called the National Standards Project, is now paving new ground in the search for comprehensive standards by creating validated practice guidelines for educating children with autism.

"Critical, in-depth information regarding the treatment of this growing population cannot come quickly enough," said Susan M. Wilczynski, Ph.D., BCBA, Executive Director of the National Autism Center. "We have undertaken the National Standards Project in response to the urgent need for universally accepted, evidence-based practices for ASD."

As part of this initiative, the Center has organized a group of national experts in autism and educational services who are conducting an exhaustive review of the educational and behavioral literature for all school-aged individuals with ASD.

The resulting body of work will be the most comprehensive review of educational and behavioral research undertaken to date. It will be widely disseminated to families, practitioners, educators, organizations, and policy-makers. It is slated for completion in late 2007.

### About the National Autism Center

The National Autism Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to serving children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders by providing reliable information, promoting best practices, and offering comprehensive resources for families, practitioners, and communities.

An advocate for evidence-based treatment approaches, the Center identifies effective programming and shares practical information with families about how to respond to the challenges they face. The Center also conducts applied research as well as develops training and service models for practitioners. Finally, the Center works to shape public policy concerning ASD and its treatment through the development and dissemination of national standards of practice.

For more information, please call 800-778-7601 or visit [www.nationalautismcenter.org](http://www.nationalautismcenter.org).