

TREATMENT COMPONENTS

Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders, often referred to as autism or ASD, must be individualized for each person. However, the international autism research community has confirmed that comprehensive treatment should include:

- Intensive behavioral intervention
- Speech/communication therapy, including augmentative or alternative communication systems
- Occupational or Physical Therapy, including assistance with physical and sensory challenges
- Medical assistance for the wide range of medical issues that are very common in ASD, including differences in the immune, digestive, metabolic and endocrine systems.

Saskatoon has a limited registration comprehensive autism preschool treatment program. Outside of this program, families and individuals must try to put together components of treatment that may or may not be somewhat available in their region. This may involve a combination of public and private services, with a combination of public and private funding.

INFORMATION SOURCES

There are many sources of information about Autism Spectrum Disorders. SASKFEAT can provide opportunities to speak with other families and individuals who have shared similar experiences. As well, information on regional and provincial services, both publicly funded and private, can be provided. Suggestions for other information sources are also available. While families and individuals with ASD must choose the paths they will follow which are best for their well-being, SASKFEAT can provide an overview of the paths that are and are not possible in Saskatchewan.

WHAT CAN SASKFEAT PROVIDE?

SASKFEAT, Saskatchewan Families for Effective Autism Treatment, will try to provide whatever autism-related information you request. If we don't have it on hand, we will do our best to find it or at least find out who else might be able to be of assistance. Saskatchewan ASD information that has been requested includes:

- Diagnosis and assessments – process, professionals, locations
- Treatment components and methodologies
- Treatment manuals and related supports
- Complementary or alternative treatments
- Supports for individuals and families, including various organizations and government programs (such as funding through the Cognitive Disabilities Strategy), as well as online resources
- Information sources
- Regional autism service providers
- Medical issues
- Education issues
- Conferences
- Some tax and legal issues
- Provincial statistics
- Adult and youth issues

For additional information on Saskatchewan resources, see the “What happens now?” section of our website www.saskfeat.com.

You are your own or your family member's best advocate!



WHAT ELSE DOES SASKFEAT DO?

Summer Program

SASKFEAT runs an individual-based program in Tisdale for children with ASD for three weeks in August.

Training Program

From time to time, depending on resources, SASKFEAT offers a training program to provide ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) based instruction to families and front-line professionals.

Autism Awareness Month in Canada

Each October, SASKFEAT works to raise awareness of autism issues in Saskatchewan.

Communication

SASKFEAT is a member of Autism Society Canada and the Provincial Interagency Network on Disabilities. In addition to its members, SASKFEAT regularly communicates about the needs of the provincial autism community with:

- Politicians (provincial and federal)
- Provincial government officials
- Related organizations
- Professionals working with people with autism
- Regional autism service providers
- Media

USEFUL LINKS

You can find many more details and useful links for ASD on the SASKFEAT website

www.saskfeat.com

Some of these include: Autism Society Canada, Regina Autism Resource Centre, (Saskatoon) Autism Services, Saskatchewan Association for Community Living, SK Early Childhood Intervention Program (ECIP), medical issues (Defeat Autism Now) and ABA resources.

SASKFEAT

SASKFEAT, Saskatchewan Families for Effective Autism Treatment, is the provincial autism society which represents Saskatchewan to Autism Society Canada. Founded by concerned families, SASKFEAT works to provide accurate information about a wide range of autism related topics on a provincial basis to people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), their families, interested professionals, related organizations, service decision-makers, the media and the public. Our goal is to be a positive resource for assisting people with ASD, their families and communities to seek the services to meet their needs that will enable them to reach their potential. SASKFEAT recognizes that many people with ASD have outstanding strengths that should be encouraged, developed and supported while accommodating as well as respecting differences.

WHICH PATH TO FOLLOW?

When Autism Spectrum Disorders affect a person or their family, there are many paths that can be followed. Because Saskatchewan does not have an organized provincial autism treatment or service program, individuals and families must find their own way through the maze of existing services.

ASSURANCE

Please be assured that you are on the right track by looking for additional information. No one is to blame for ASD, and the causes of autism are not yet understood. You have done nothing wrong, and you are not alone.



SASKFEAT

Saskatchewan Families for Effective Autism Treatment



GOVERNANCE

SASKFEAT is a non-profit corporation which has a provincial volunteer Board of Directors elected each June at its Annual General Meeting, and which meets monthly by teleconference.

MISSION STATEMENT

To be a support to and for Saskatchewan people with Autism Spectrum Disorders, their families and their communities.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone who has or is interested in Autism Spectrum Disorders. There is no cost for membership, but donations are greatly appreciated. Members are provided with requested current information, as well as updates on autism information, news and events, invited to provide feedback on autism issues as well as to attend the Annual General Meeting. Download the membership application from www.saskfeat.com or contact SASKFEAT at:

Saskatchewan Families for Effective Autism Treatment Inc.

Box 2545

Tisdale SK

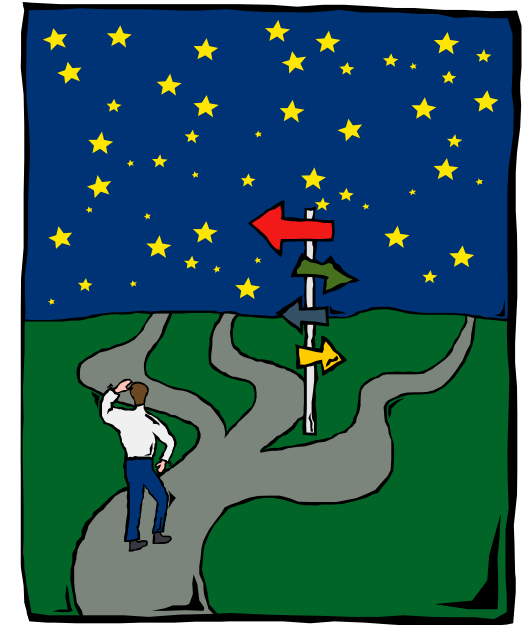
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Autism Spectrum Disorders: Where do I go?



SASKFEAT

Saskatchewan Families for Effective Autism Treatment