

# 29<sup>TH</sup> WORLD PSYCHIATRISTS MEET

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## Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and offending behavior in adults: Approaches to diagnosis and management

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Autism is characterized by the triad of impaired social interaction, deficits in communication and restricted, repetitive and circumscribed interests. It encompasses a spectrum of severity and may be associated with a range of other developmental disorders and mental health problems. In majority of people with ASD, their presentation is not associated with offending behavior. However, a sub group of people with offending behavior who also have ASD pose particular challenges. This presentation will cover the core features and co-morbidity of autism spectrum disorders, the relationship between ASD and offending behavior, the screening and diagnosis of ASD in forensic settings and approaches to management. The latter will include a discussion about the recently introduced typologies of ASD within forensic settings and the preliminary findings of the MATCH study into people with autism in the UK who are compulsorily detained in hospital for treatment.

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