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**HEALTH  
UPDATE**

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Celebrating National Autism Acceptance Month!  
#CelebrateDifferences encourages individuals with autism and their families to live full, quality lives through connection and acceptance

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Autism Now Affects 1 in 54 Children in the U.S.
- Diagnostic rate for autism is rising 10% -17% each year.
- Nearly 3.5M+ individuals in the U.S. have autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
- Males are 4 times more likely than females to be diagnosed with autism.
- 85% of autistic adults with a college education are unemployed.

Source: [Autism Society of America](http://Autism Society of America)

[Download Autism 101 Infographic](#)

### Learn More About Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

#### What Is Autism?

Autism is a complex, lifelong developmental disability that affects essential human behaviors such as social interaction, the ability to communicate ideas and feelings, imagination, self-regulation, and the ability to establish relationships with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a “spectrum condition” that affects people differently and to varying degrees.

#### What Are Some Characteristics of Autism?

Autism is characterized in the DSM-V by:

- Being nonverbal or having atypical speech patterns, having trouble understanding nonverbal communication, difficulty making and keeping friends, difficulty maintaining typical back-and-forth conversational style.
- Repeating sounds or phrases (echolalia), repetitive movements, preference for sameness and difficulty with transition or routine, rigid or highly restricted and intense interests, extreme sensitivity to or significantly lower sensitivity to various sensory stimuli.

#### What Causes Autism?

While no single specific cause of autism is known, current research links autism to biological or neurological differences in the brain. The characteristic behaviors of ASD may or may not be apparent in infancy (18 to 24 months), but usually become obvious during early childhood (24 months to 6 years).

#### What are the Early Signs of Autism?

Early signs to look for:

- Speaks later than typical or not at all (nonverbal).
- Repetition in language or movement, such as repeating the same word or sounds, hand flapping, or any repeated movement.
- Atypical nonverbal communication, including avoiding eye contact, giving few facial expressions, or having a monotone.
- Prefers solitary or parallel play rather than engaging in associative or cooperative play with other children.
- Extremely distressed by changes, including new foods or changes in schedule.
- Preference for predictable, structured play over spontaneous or make-believe play.
- Strong, persistent interest on specific topic, part of a toy, or item.

#### Is There a Cure for Autism?

Currently, there is no cure for autism. However, continued research has provided a clearer understanding of the disorder and has led to better treatments and therapies that can positively change the associated behaviors.

Early diagnosis helps a person receive the support and services that they need, which can lead to a quality life filled with opportunity.

Read More at: [Autism Society of America](#)

## Our Locations



Texas Emergency Hospital  
300 E. Crockett St.  
Cleveland, Tx. 77327



Cleveland Emergency Hospital  
1017 South Travis Eve.  
Cleveland, Tx. 77327



Emergency Hospital Systems-  
Deerbrook  
8901 FM 1960 Bypass Rd. W.  
Suite 105  
Humble, Tx 77338



Emergency Hospital Systems-  
The Woodlands  
20225 Interstate 45 N.  
Spring, Tx 77386



Emergency Hospital Systems- Porter  
24540 FM 1314  
Porter, TX 77365



Emergency Hospital Systems LLC