

Modified Questionnaire for Autism Spectrum Conditions (M-Q-ASC)

Simcoe, Gilmour, Garnett, Attwood, Donovan & Kelly (2022). *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-022-05552-9>

Description:

The M-Q-ASC is a 36-item questionnaire designed to assess parent/caregiver perceptions of behaviour and abilities associated with autism in children aged 5-12 years, including those pertaining to the female presentation of Autism in children with fluent speech and intellectual abilities in the average range or higher.

Scoring Information:

To score the questionnaire the add up the numbers endorsed for each scale, except Section H .

Definitely Disagree = 0

Disagree = 1

Agree = 2

Definitely Agree = 3

There are no reversals. Higher numbers indicate greater autism consistent behaviours. There are no norms or cut-offs.

To Understand the Scores Further:

Refer to the original paper. 323 children aged 5-12 years participated in this study. including 111 parents of autistic children and 212 parents of neurotypical children.

Autistic females were differentiated from neurotypical females on 5 subscales:

- Gender Identity
- Sensory Sensitivity
- Compliant Behaviours
- Imagination
- Imitation

Autistic males were differentiated from neurotypical males on 2 subscales:

- Sensory Sensitivity
- Compliant Behaviours

NB: Whilst Sections D & E did not discriminate between autistic girls and neurotypical girls, the individual questions in each section are relevant to a diagnostic assessment and so we have left these sections in the questionnaire. Look at each question individually instead of as a whole construct.

That three Sections (subscales) discriminated between autistic girls and neurotypical girls, but not boys, supports the supposition that autistic females present differently from their male counterparts.