

## Autism Spectrum Quotient (AQ)

*A quick referral guide for parents to complete about a teenager aged 12-15 years old with suspected autism who does not have a learning disability.*

**Please tick one option per question only:**

		Definitely Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Definitely Disagree
1	S/he notices patterns in things all the time				
2	S/he usually concentrates more on the whole picture, rather than the small details				
3	In a social group, s/he can easily keep track of several different people's conversations				
4	If there is an interruption, s/he can switch back to what s/he was doing very quickly				
5	S/he frequently finds that s/he doesn't know how to keep a conversation going				
6	S/he is good at social chit-chat				
7	When s/he was younger, s/he used to enjoy playing games involving pretending with other children				
8	S/he finds it difficult to imagine what it would be like to be someone else				
9	S/he finds social situations easy				
10	S/he finds it hard to make new friends				

**SCORING:** Only 1 point can be scored for each question. Score 1 point for *Definitely or Slightly Agree* on each of items 1, 5, 8 and 10. Score 1 point for *Definitely or Slightly Disagree* on each of items 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9. If the individual scores **6 or above**, consider referring them for a specialist diagnostic assessment.

**USE:** This is the adolescent version of the test recommended in the NICE clinical guideline CG142. [www.nice.org.uk/CG142](http://www.nice.org.uk/CG142)

**Key reference:** Allison C, Auyeung B, and Baron-Cohen S, (2012) *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 51(2):202-12.