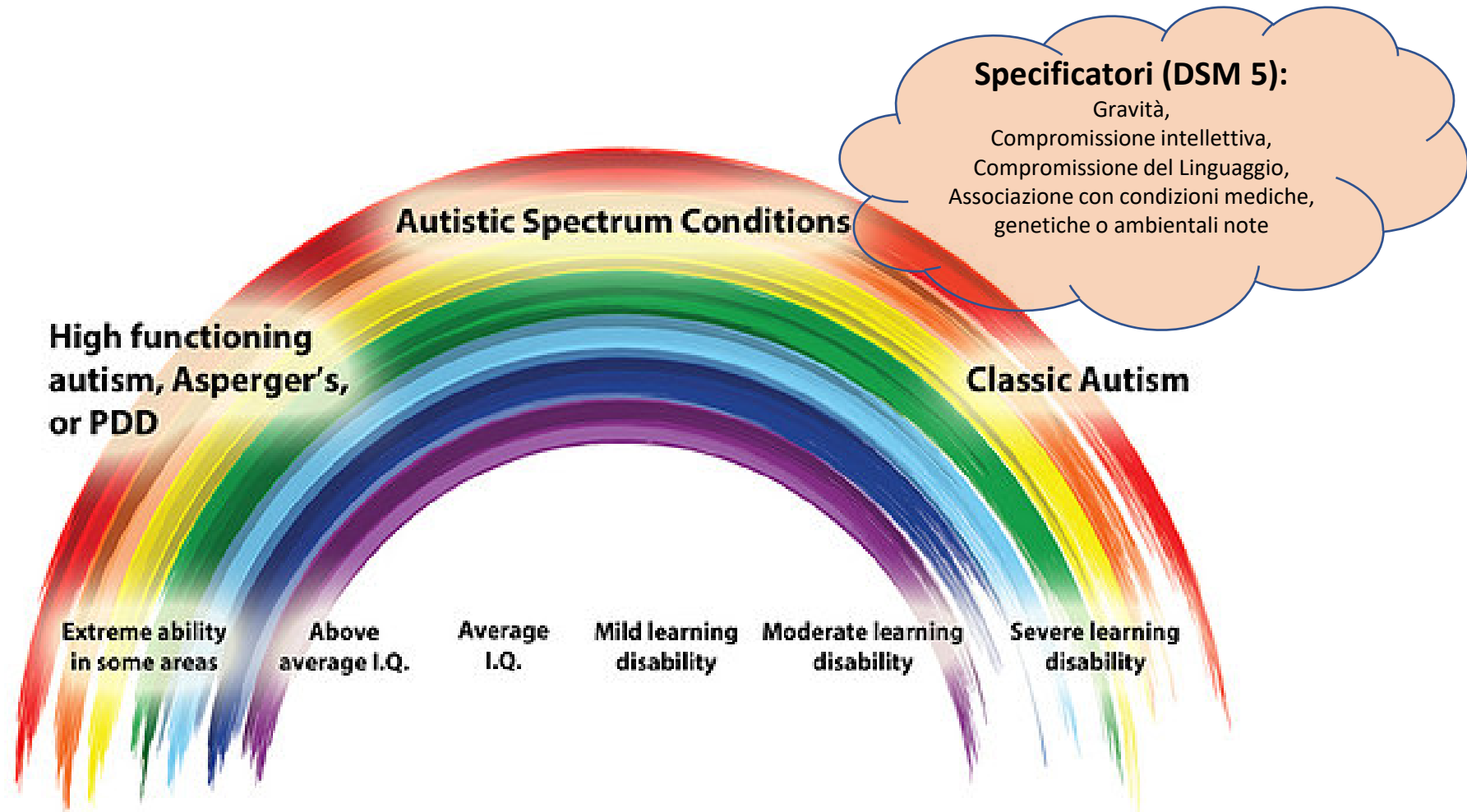




# **Le traiettorie evolutive nei disturbi dello spettro autistico**

*Elena Vanadia, NPI - IdO*

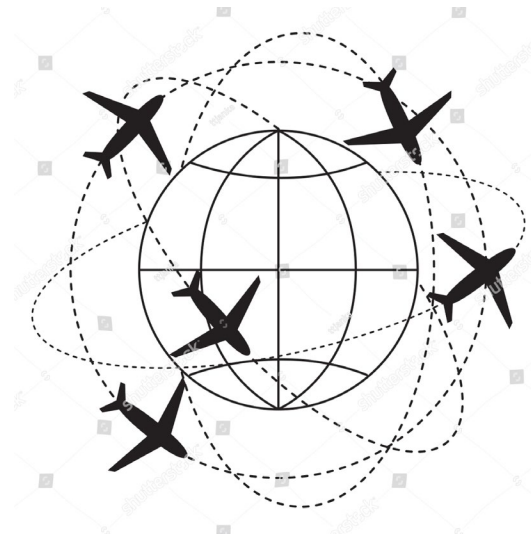
# LO SPETTRO DELL'AUTISMO



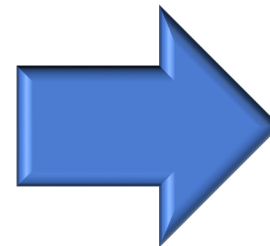
Bisogni multidimensionali (assistenziali, sanitari, ambientali), multilivello e continuativi

# TRAIETTORIE EVOLUTIVE

- ALTO
- MEDIO-ALTO
- MEDIO
- MEDIO-BASSO
- BASSO
- *BLOOMERS (8-11%)*



Variabilità fenotipica



Outcome

# OUTCOME

## Predittori

- Linguaggio
- Quoziente Intellettivo
- TCE
- UOI
- Leiter (RF)
- Gioco funzionale/simbolico
- Stereotipie?

## Variabili

- Età
- Anamnesi
- Altre condizioni di interesse clinico
- Intervento terapeutico/assistenziale
- Collaborazione
- Ambiente e livello socio-economico

# A comprehensive assessment process for children with autism spectrum disorders

OSSERVAZIONE  
ADOS-2  
LEITER-R  
TCE  
UOI  
QUESTIONARI

Magda Di Renzo, Viviana Guerriero, Massimiliano Petrillo, Lidia Racinaro, Elena Vanadia and Federico Bianchi di Castelbianco

## Abstract

**Purpose** – *The assessment of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in childhood has two essential aspects: the identification of the risk (under 30 months of age) and the definition of a diagnosis that takes into account its core areas as well as further non-specific aspects. The purpose of this paper is to present an approach that considers the combination of clinical evaluation with the use of tools that analyse the various levels of the child's functioning as fundamental.*

**Design/methodology/approach** – *The comprehensive assessment at the Institute of Ortofonia in Rome provides the ADOS-2 and the Leiter-R for the evaluation of the symptomatology, the severity level, the non-verbal cognitive functioning and the fluid reasoning; the TCE and the UOI are used to identify, respectively, the child's emotional skills and the ability to understand the intentions of others, as precursors of the theory of mind. Within this assessment, the Brief-P, the Short Sensory Profile and the RBS are also included for the evaluation of executive functions, sensory pattern and of restricted and repetitive behaviours, as observed by parents.*

**Findings** – *How to define a reliable development profile, which allows to plan a specific intervention calibrated on the potential of the child and on his development trajectory, is described. Two clinical cases are also presented.*

**Originality/value** – *The entire process is aimed both at a detailed assessment of the child's functioning and at identifying a specific therapeutic project and predictive factors for achieving an optimal outcome.*

**Keywords** *Children, Comprehensive assessment, Autism spectrum disorder, Predictive factors, Development trajectory*

**Paper type** *Technical paper*

Magda Di Renzo,  
Viviana Guerriero,  
Massimiliano Petrillo,  
Lidia Racinaro, Elena Vanadia  
and Federico Bianchi di  
Castelbianco are all based at  
Institute of Ortofonia,  
Rome, Italy.



## T.U.L.I.P. Protocol (TCE, UOI, Leiter-R as Indicators of Predictivity) for the Assessment of the Developmental Potential in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Magda Di Renzo<sup>1\*</sup>, Federico Bianchi di Castelbianco<sup>1</sup>, Elena Vanadia<sup>1</sup>, Massimiliano Petrillo<sup>1</sup>, Lidia Racinaro<sup>1</sup> and Monica Rea<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Ortofonia (IdO), Via Salaria 30, 00198, Rome, Italy

<sup>2</sup>Dynamic and Clinical Psychology Department, Sapienza University of Rome, Via degli Apuli 1, 00185, Rome, Italy

### Abstract

The article aims to highlight some predictive indicators of improvement in ADOS scores in a group of 49 children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

For this purpose we created a specific protocol named T.U.L.I.P. that, using the Fluid Reasoning of the Leiter-R, the presence of Emotional Contagion (TCE) and the ability to understand the intentions of the others (UOI) as predictive indicators, can identify a category of autistic children who positively respond to treatment and improves the autistic symptomatology.

The children who at the intake had predictive indicators of Emerging or Present UOI and TCE improved their autistic symptomatology with therapy and some of them (those with Present indicators) positively changed their ADOS diagnosis.

In pre-school children, or in the first year of their schooling, the assessment of cognitive and social components shows that relational skills have a greater importance in predicting the decrease of the ADOS scores.

The presence of predictive indicators, especially on the emotional response and the ability to understand the intentions of the others, also helps to work through a developmental- relational approach that activates in children their existing potentialities to get improvements even in the cognitive functioning. The Social Affection component of the Ados correlates with predictive indicators and accounts for an intervention targeted to the emotional dimension.

# A therapeutic approach for ASD: method and outcome of the DERBBI – Developmental, Emotional Regulation and Body-Based Intervention

*Magda Di Renzo<sup>1</sup>, Elena Vanadia<sup>1</sup>, Massimiliano Petrillo<sup>1</sup>, Davide Trapolino<sup>1</sup>, Lidia Racinaro<sup>1</sup>, Monica Rea<sup>1-2</sup>, Federico Bianchi di Castelbianco<sup>1</sup>*

## **Abstract**

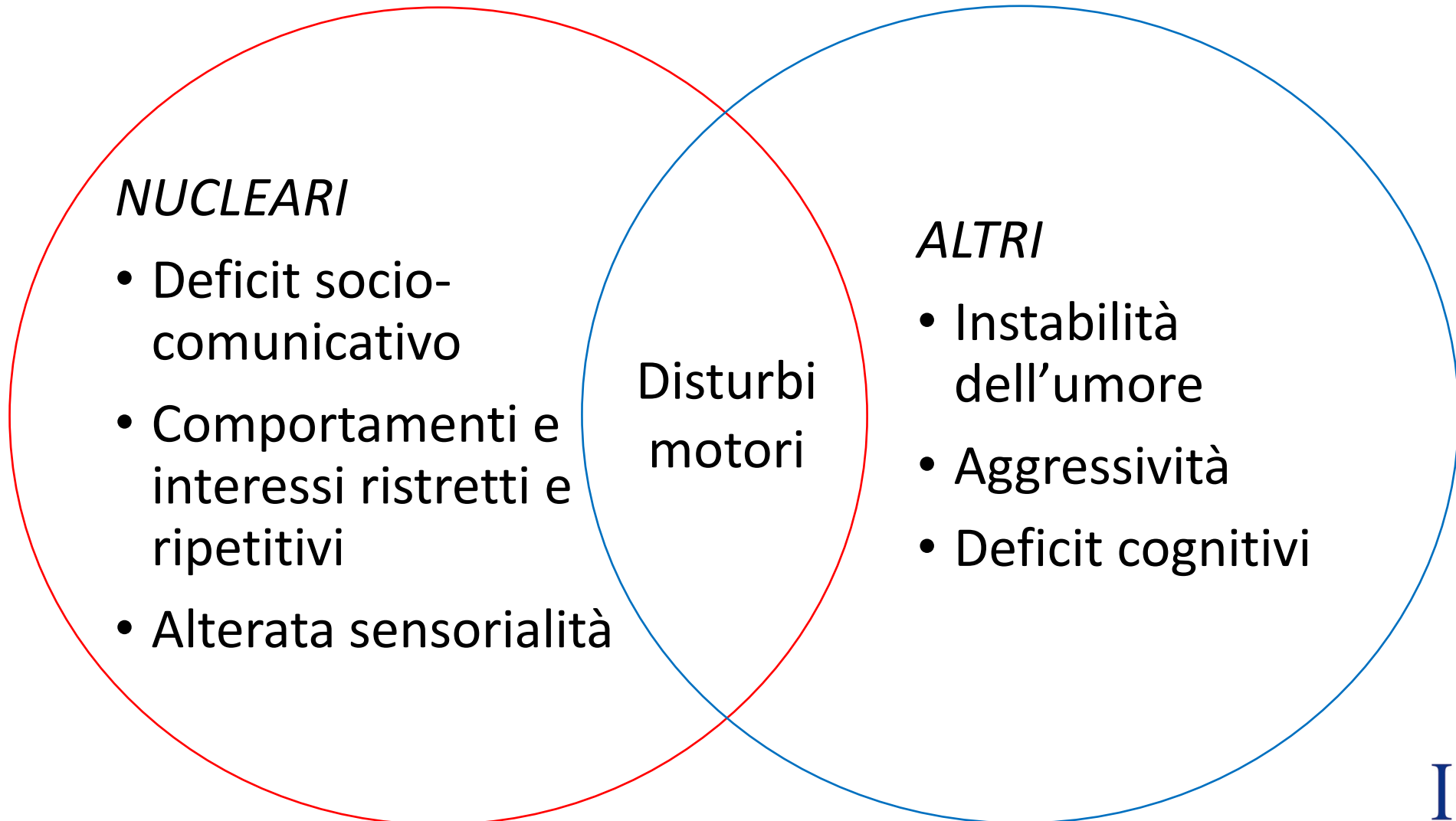
Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder displaying individual impairments in social interaction, communication skills, interest and behaviours. In the last decade several studies have been published on the approaches that can be used with ASD children.

This study illustrated the therapeutic approach of the DERBBI method, defined as a relational and body based intervention. The research described the symptoms and emotional development outcomes of ASD children aged 21–66 months, after 2 of the 4 years of planned therapy; the study group included both children who had received a diagnosis of autism and children (under 30 months) who had a risk of developing symptoms.

Approximately 78% of the children with a more severe ASD symptomatology after two years of therapy maintained this diagnosis, instead, among children with a less severe ASD symptomatology, about the 67% after two years of therapy no longer fulfilled the ADOS-2 criteria for autism. Among the children who were at risk of developing the autistic symptomatology, about the 42% no longer showed this risk after 2 years of therapy. The improvements that the children showed in their ability to understand the intentions of others and to contact the emotions of others were also investigated. The findings of this study have underlined the importance of early positive indicators which, among the Autisms, could be defined a specific subpopulation that get better benefits from such a type of intervention.

**Key words:** *Autism spectrum disorder, therapeutic approach, ADOS-2, Understanding intention, emotional contagion.*

# SINTOMI







# The Psychomotor Profile in Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders: Clinical Assessments and Implications for Therapy

Magda Di Renzo\*, Bianchi di Castelbianco F, Elena Vanadia, Lidia Racinaro and Monica Rea

*Institute of Ortofonia (IdO), Rome, Italy*

## Abstract

Autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) are a class of neurodevelopmental disorders defined by qualitative impairments in social functioning and communication, often accompanied by repetitive and stereotyped patterns of behaviour's and interests, with their typical onset during the first three years of life. Recent researches demonstrate that early diagnosis and intervention sensibly improve outcomes. Until now, a limit of the most common therapies has been to get poor results in approaching the relational and emotional difficulties that, finding their origin in the early interactions that the child has with the outside world, must take account of the body as first experiential and communicative channel for the new-born. Although the current assessment protocols provide for development scales and observation of motor skills, do not yet exist studies aimed at identifying characteristic psychomotor profiles and too little attention is paid to bodily dimension in therapeutic terms. The purpose of present paper is to examine the psychomotor profiles of 61 children diagnosed with ASD, analyse their specifics and correlations with symptoms and cognitive development. Results show that children with more severe impairment have greater troubles in modulating their body, in attention, in spatial organization, in symbolic play, in motor behaviour's, starting from imitation, and in communication, even from the most archaic mode, namely the tonic dialogue. Findings, supported by what has already been published on the effectiveness of early developmental-relationship-bodily based approach with ASD children, support the idea that psychomotor area should represent an essential element in childhood rehabilitative therapies, especially in autism, where it is necessary to start from body and experience intended as a solid foundation on which build cognitive and social skills

# Andamento in età evolutiva + articolo ados 3

- Permanenza risultati
- Nucleo psicopatologico o vulnerabilità di base
- No aggressività

*Tolti i comportamenti autistici cosa resta?*



*Grazie!*

