

Improving Experiences of Children with Autism in Hospital Settings.

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Acknowledgements to **Francis Binns** - Professional lead for Therapeutic & Specialised Play Services, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital

Autism Spectrum Disorder

- Also termed Learning Disability
- Autism is a complex neurobiological condition that includes a wide spectrum of related disorders
 - Autistic disorder, Asperger's disorder, pervasive development disorder not otherwise specified, Rett syndrome and childhood disintegrative disorder.

- Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects the way a person communicates and relates to people around them.
- Children and Adults with Autism have difficulties with everyday social interaction
- Estimated that 26% of people with a learning disability are admitted every year in the UK compared with 14% of the general population.

Autism and Sensory Issues

- Touch
 - Clumsiness
 - Noise
 - Light
- Pain
- Diet
- Hand Flapping
- Smell

Autism and Anxiety

- How to make someone with Autism (or anyone else, come to that) anxious:
- Disrupt routine
 - Bring to a strange place
 - Bring to a noisy place
 - Use non-understandable language/communication (or don't even try!)
 - Keep waiting for unspecified time
 - Lots of people
 - Lots of questions
 - Invade personal space
 - Do unpleasant things
 - Be inflexible and work to the system's timescale

Proactive Play Intervention and Person Centred Assessment of Individual Specific Needs

- Best experience / outcomes linked directly to early referral, assessment and planning.
- Worst experience / outcomes linked directly no or poor assessment.


Autism & Hospitals – What Helps

- Consultation with parent/carers education etc
- Asking parents in advance – allow for preparation
- Special arrangements – keeping to time, avoiding waiting
- Explanatory “passport”
- Quiet area, without excess environmental stimulation
- Room to roam
- Communication aids – e.g visual
- Extra time for appointment – patient, unhurried, non-threatening approach

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 Central Manchester University Hospitals **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

Are you referring a Child or Young Person with Autism to Royal Manchester Children's Hospital?

If so please tell us about this so that we can make their visit as stress free as possible.

Please could you:

- Telephone the Autism Project Leader for Central Manchester Foundation Trust on **0161 701 0696**.
- If your call is not answered please leave your contact telephone number on the answer machine and your call will be returned.
- A Team Member will then contact the family to assess the specific needs of the child/young person to ensure their visit to the hospital is designed to meet their needs.
- You can also e-mail at playservices.referrals@cmft.nhs.uk

Thank you

TIG ??/? Produced March 2011 Review Date March 2013 (SF Taylor CM11955)

Gathering All about Me information : The Patient Passport:

Name..... Patient Passport		Insert Picture here..
<u>Medical Information</u>	<u>Communication</u>	
<u>Support</u>	<u>Environment</u>	

PLEASE MAKE SURE THIS FORM TRAVELS WITH ME THROUGHOUT THE HOSPITAL
****INFORM THE DISCHARGE CO-ORDINATOR OF MY ADMISSION****

Name:

Address:

Telephone Number: Date of Birth: / /

Next of Kin:

Preferred Contact if different to Next Of Kin:

Advocate:

G.P.:

Known Allergies:

Religion: Ethnicity:

Completed by: Date:

Checked by: Date:

Reviewed by: Date:

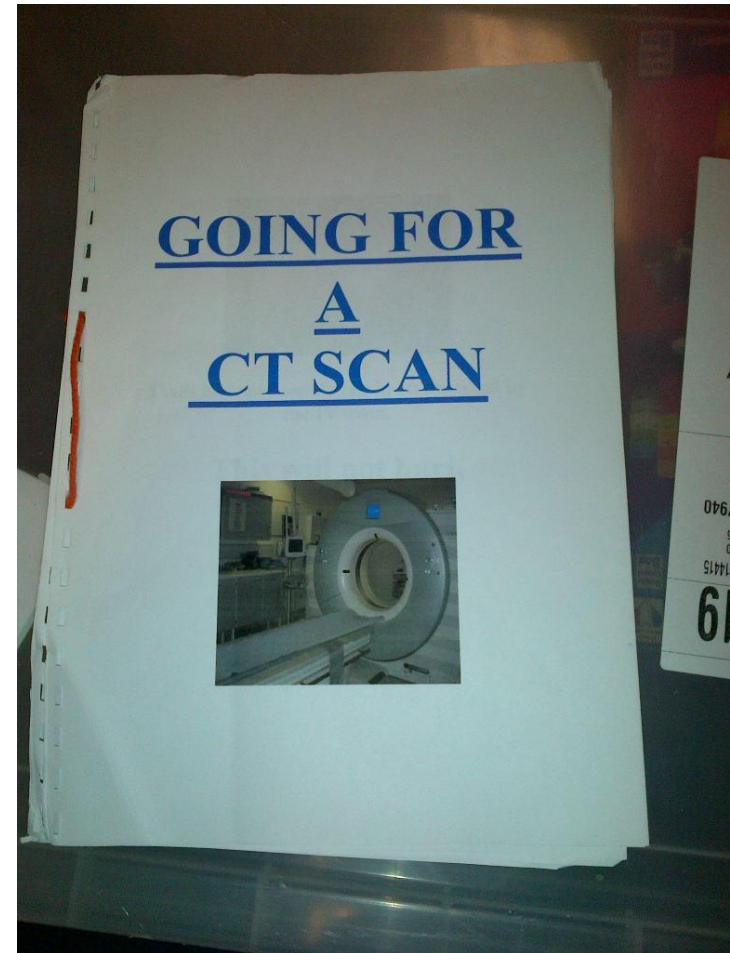
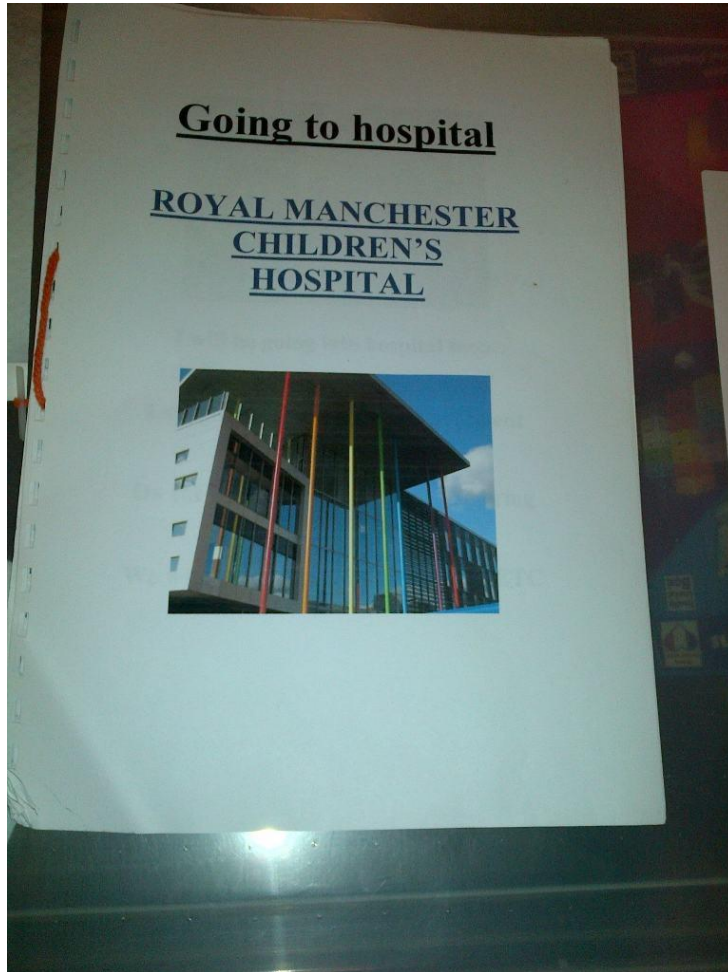
Review Check by: Date:

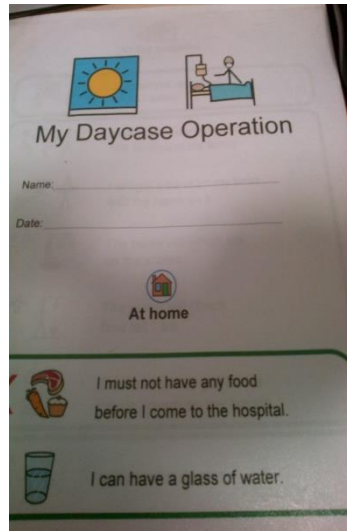
Receiving Nurse: Date:
 Signed (Receiving Nurse): Date:

Discharge Co-ordinator contacted by: Date:
 Signed (Discharge Co-ordinator): Date:

This example template has been prepared jointly by Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, East Cheshire NHS Trust, The Rosendale Trust, The David Lewis Centre and East Cheshire Advocacy. September 2008.

Hospital Social Stories





Visual timetables

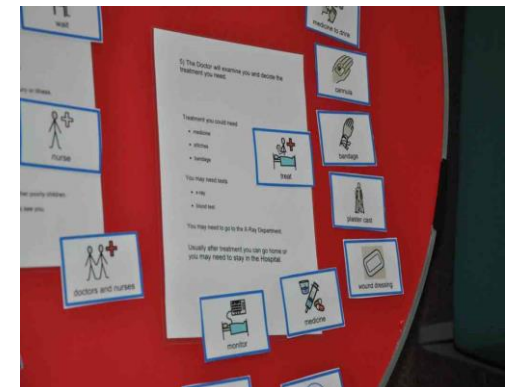
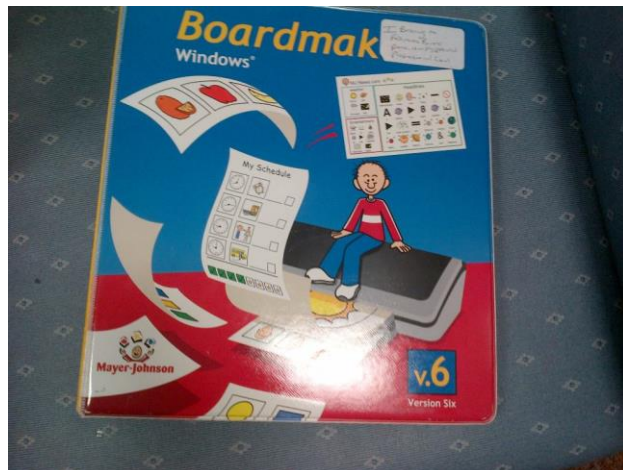
Social stories

www.widgit.com

Boardmaker

www.theplaydoctors.co.uk

Photographs

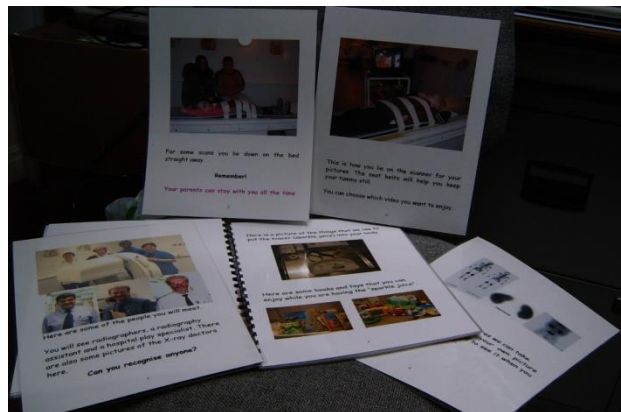


Accessible Communication Methods for All Disciplines to Use

Blood Test Visual timetable



Having a scan

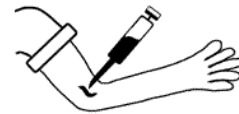


Having a blood test

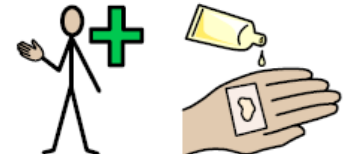
When I go to the hospital,



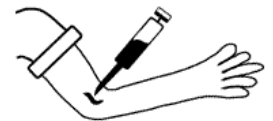
I may have to have a blood test



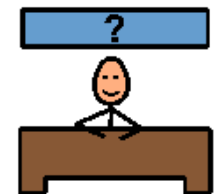
An anaesthetic wipe may be rubbed on to my wrist/arm, which will stop it from hurting when I have my blood taken



A doctor/nurse will then squeeze my arm/wrist, this will help them to get the blood out more easily.



The test will give the doctor important information about my blood



Multi-sensory room

Sometimes when I am in hospital, I might get a chance to go to the Multi-sensory room.



This room might make me feel calmer and more relaxed.

I might go to the room with a member of the play therapy team or with my parents/carers



It is fine for me to let the nurses know if I need to go the Multi-sensory room, they will be able to tell me when is a good time for me to go to the room



www.theplaydoctors.org.uk



Distraction Provision

Ditto

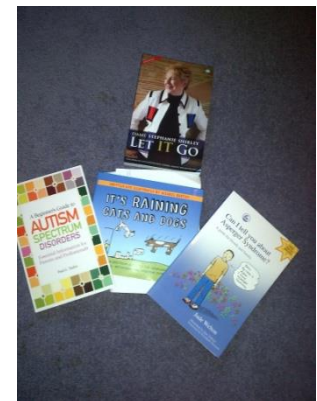
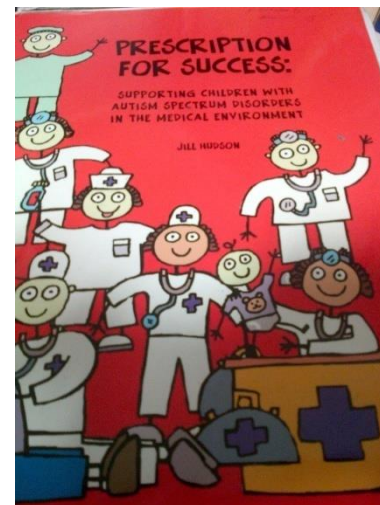
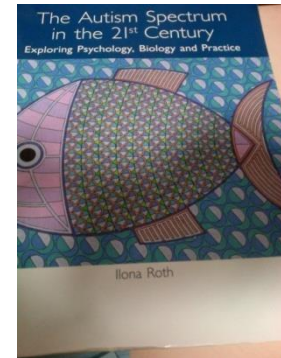


3D V-Pod



Further Information

- NAS website- www.autism.org.uk
- WWW. Positive about Autism
- **Books**
- The Autism Spectrum in the 21st Century Ilona Ruth
- Prescription for Success: Supporting children with Autism Spectrum Disorders in the Medical Environments :Jill Hudson
- Curious incident of the dog in the night
- House Rules : Jodie Picoult
- All Cats have Aspergers
- Raining cats and Dogs: Michael Barton
- **DVD**
- Temple Grandin
- I have Autism –Rory Hoy



References /Suggested Further Reading

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