

Masterclasses

M6.4**Autistic Spectrum of Diseases****14:30 Room 423 & 424****Gastrointestinal Symptoms in Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder in Hong Kong***Mo FYM**Department of Psychiatry, Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital, Hong Kong*

Autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) is a complex heterogenous neuro-developmental disorder characterised by deficits in social reciprocity and communication skills, with also repetitive, rigid and stereotyped behaviours. The comorbidity is high including physical comorbidities of gastrointestinal (GI) disorders. Literature review showed that children with ASD have GI symptoms two to four times more than that of the comparison groups. The most common symptoms are constipation, diarrhea and abdominal pain. All the ASD-GI studies in the past included Caucasian subjects only. Therefore in the current study we would like to know about the prevalence and the correlates of GI symptoms in the Chinese population of children with ASD in Hong Kong. We would also like to explore if (1) ASD with GI symptoms represents an ASD subtype; (2) the underlying etiological implication (3) the complex gut-brain connection; and (4) possible hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis involvement.