

Free Autism Training Opportunities: Diagnosing and Providing Care for Autistic Children and Youth and Their Families

Autism CME

Virtual Autism Center of Excellence (COE) Certification Training Friday December 9, 2022 (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 pm)

Are your pediatric patients with concerns related to autism, especially those with Medicaid insurance, facing long waits for evaluation and diagnosis? Frustrated at not knowing how to help? Are you a related health care provider who wishes to learn more about autism?

The Health Care Authority (HCA) contracts with the University of Washington's INCLUDE* Collaborative to provide **free** Center of Excellence (COE) Certification trainings to enable MDs, DOs, ARNPs, and naturopathic doctors to become COEs and diagnose children and youth with autism. In addition, community partners and related professions (e.g. speech-language pathologists, ABA providers, educators, social workers, mental health care providers, occupational therapists, etc.) can participate in the free training to learn more about the COE program and to collaborate with COE's to provide comprehensive support.

COE-track course participants complete in advance the free American Academy of Pediatrics/Pedialinks' online course "[Identifying and Caring for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Course for Pediatric Clinicians](#)." These seven engaging and highly rated self-paced modules come with free 6.5 CME category 1 credits and provide the shared knowledge base for the following live VIRTUAL training. Other participants can also complete the online course but it is not required for participation

Neurologist Dr. Gary Stobbe, Speech-Language Pathologist Jim Mancini and other expert clinicians including a primary care provider doing COE work in his or her practice, share clinical pearls and guidelines during the live virtual video conference training. Autistic adults and family members share their lived experience perspectives. The training includes information about screening, evaluation, intervention options, Washington State paperwork for recognized diagnoses, state and local resources, and connecting with regional peers. CME Category 2 self-reported credits can be claimed for the day.

People who have previously gone through the COE training, are welcome to attend part or all of the trainings as guests for a refresher (just note this on your registration).

If you choose to become a COE after the training, you can diagnose children and youth with autism for Medicaid and prescribe covered ABA treatment if appropriate. A COE autism diagnosis (with severity requirements) from a MD/DO/ARNP or psychologist is also recognized by DD for eligibility for their services. COEs can limit who they will evaluate on the [online COE list](#) (e.g. clinic patients, age of children etc.)

Becoming a COE also enables clinicians to join [Project ECHO Autism Washington](#), a free twice a month ZOOM 90 minute case-based consultation and training program focusing on autism diagnosis and ongoing care management. Data has indicated that participation in the ECHO Autism program increases provider confidence in making the diagnosis and providers join a growing statewide community of providers with expertise in autism. Each session provides up to 1.5 Category 1 CME.

For more information about the COE training or to register go to <https://medicalhome.org/coe> or contact Kate Orville at orville@uw.edu for COE training or connecting with other community partners involved in this work. For information about Project ECHO Autism, contact Sennie Rose, Project Coordinator at echoautismwa@uw.edu

** INCLUDE = Inclusive Network of Community Leaders with a focus on the Underserved and Disability Education*