



.....because Autism is Treatable!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Stephanie Scott
Mob: +44 (0)7725 636499
Email: stephanie.scott@totalise.co.uk

AUTISM PARENTS: NO HELP FROM NHS, GOVERNMENT Second TA Conference Will Target Medical Treatment for Autism

Parents of children with autism are not getting the help their children desperately need from the NHS, according to a new poll. Treating Autism, a leading UK charity which promotes awareness of the gut and immune system problems which often accompany autism, has found many parents "crying out for help and the help is not there for them," says Stephanie Sirr, the charity's chairperson. "These results make heartbreaking reading."

Treating Autism commissioned the poll in the lead up to its second conference on biomedical treatments for autism (March 13th and 14th 2009), which will feature doctors and other professionals from the US, UK and France reporting the latest and most promising research for the gut and immune system problems which so often afflict those with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD).

Of all of the poll respondents, 74% were using some form of biomedical treatment for their ASD children, encompassing a range of treatments, from dietary changes and nutritional supplements, to pharmaceutical drugs and other medical therapies. 95% of these rated the results in their children beneficial and 24% rated them "life-changing", with the greatest improvements seen in the areas of bowel problems, communication and sociability, eye contact, sleep problems and receptive and expressive language.

In spite of the impressive results, with one parent crediting medical treatments for helping her ASD child progress "from full spectrum, now recovered," only 12% reported receiving advice, support and treatment on the NHS, with an overwhelming majority of 78% resorting to the private sector, both in the UK and America, for their children's medical care.

"The NHS should be leading the world in treatment of gut disorders which accompany autism. Instead, British children must go abroad for enlightened, up to date care." said a Treating Autism trustee.

"This issue has become needlessly politicised in this country and our children are suffering for it. By addressing these problems you can help children immeasurably in their everyday lives," said Stephanie Scott, Vice Chair of Treating Autism.

Michelle Byrne, a delegate who attended the 2007 Treating Autism conference said:

"Since the conference Tommy's life is completely different and it has been one hell of an emotional, physical and educational journey. It has been one of delight and joy at Tommy's development".

The Treating Autism Conference will feature presentations by Dr Bryan Jepson and Dr Natasha Campbell-McBride, author of Gut and Psychology Syndrome. There will be an opportunity to mingle with other parents and professionals at the Treating Ourselves reception at the Royal Bath Hotel in Bournemouth which is generously sponsored by First Group. The Treating Autism Second International Biomedical conference will take place on the 13th and 14th of February at the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC) in Dorset.

#

If you would like more information about the Treating Autism Conference, or to speak to Stephanie Scott, please call the +44 (0)7725 636499 or email stephanie.scott@totalise.co.uk or treatingautismuk@aol.com

Notes to editors

1. For full survey results email treatingautismuk@aol.com
2. Autism affects one in 86 children today
3. Treating Autism is a parent-led membership charity. Membership has increased by 100% in six months.
4. There are currently no published NICE (National Institute for Clinical Excellence) guidelines for the treatment of autism.
5. In the Treating Autism survey (247 respondents) – 46% of people with ASD had had mainstream medical complaints misdiagnosed on 6 or more visits to their GP or paediatrician.
6. It is conservatively estimated that each person with autism will cost society £3,000,000 in their life time.
7. More information on the work of Treating Autism and the conference can be found at www.treatingautism.co.uk
8. Overseas speakers travelling to the UK to speak include Dr Bryan Jepson, Professor Boyd Haley, Karen DeFelice, Dr Madgalena Cubala Kucharska and Dr Andrew Wakefield.
9. Topics covered will include gut healing, metal toxicity, the use of enzymes, Single Nucleotide Polymorphs (genetic pointers), supplementation and detox and Parents Stories of Success. Birmingham parents Sandy and Tim detail how their son's diagnosis was removed following biomedical intervention.
10. Interviews with parents can be arranged by email or by contacting Stephanie Scott.
11. Treating Ourselves event is generously sponsored by First Group.



Treating Autism is run by parents of children with Autism entirely on a voluntary basis
Registered Charity: No. 1113628 Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England: No. 5594787
Registered Office: 222 Bramhall Lane South, Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire SK7 3AA