

# AQ-10

## Autism Spectrum Quotient (AQ)

A quick referral guide for adults with suspected autism who do not have a learning disability.

**Please tick one option per question only:**

		Definitely Agree	Slightly Agree	Slightly Disagree	Definitely Disagree
1	I often notice small sounds when others do not				
2	I usually concentrate more on the whole picture, rather than the small details				
3	I find it easy to do more than one thing at once				
4	If there is an interruption, I can switch back to what I was doing very quickly				
5	I find it easy to 'read between the lines' when someone is talking to me				
6	I know how to tell if someone listening to me is getting bored				
7	When I'm reading a story I find it difficult to work out the characters' intentions				
8	I like to collect information about categories of things (e.g. types of car, types of bird, types of train, types of plant etc)				
9	I find it easy to work out what someone is thinking or feeling just by looking at their face				
10	I find it difficult to work out people's intentions				

**SCORING:** Only 1 point can be scored for each question. Score 1 point for *Definitely or Slightly Agree* on each of items 1, 7, 8, and 10. Score 1 point for *Definitely or Slightly Disagree* on each of items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9. If the individual scores **more than 6 out of 10**, consider referring them for a specialist diagnostic assessment.

This test is recommended in 'Autism: recognition, referral, diagnosis and management of adults on the autism spectrum' (NICE clinical guideline CG142). [www.nice.org.uk/CG142](http://www.nice.org.uk/CG142)

**Key reference:** Allison C, Auyeung B, and Baron-Cohen S, (2012) *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry* 51(2):202-12.