



Training Course: ADOS-2 Administration and Coding

This document describes your pre-course assignment. You will also need access to the pre-course video which can be viewed online. You will have received a link to the video.

ADOS-2 Overview

The Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule – Second Edition (ADOS-2) was launched in May 2012. The ADOS is widely regarded as the gold standard observational tool for diagnosis of autism and related disorders. The ADOS-2 has five modules, comprising a Toddler Module (T) together with generic Modules One to Four (M1 to M4). Each module normally takes between 30 and 40 minutes to administer. The Toddler Module is designed for children with limited expressive language aged between 12 and 30 months. Modules 1 – 4 are selected for use on the basis of the expressive language level and age of the subject.

Each Module has its own Observation/Coding Booklet*. The ADOS-2 Kit is supplied with a manual and number of coding booklets, further copies of which are obtainable from Hogrefe (In the UK). You are **not** expected to have access to any ADOS-2 materials before attending your course. However, if you do have access to an ADOS-2 Manual or Coding Booklets, you may find it useful to read the introductory sections of the manual and to look through the coding booklets. The broad format of the coding booklet is the same for each module and has 3 main parts:

- **Observation**
The module tasks are described in sequence. Each task has space for the administrator's notes and some information on the focus of the observation for each activity.
- **Coding**
Each Coding item is described alongside a box for entering the numeric score for that item.
- **Classification**
A double-sided page at the end of each module which lists those 'algorithm' items that are needed for diagnosis/classification, with boxes for scores to be entered and totalled. Totals are used in the final ADOS-2 Classification and Overall Diagnosis. Tables are provided listing cut-off points for classification and for calculating a 'Comparison Score' based on the child's performance score and their chronological age.

**For brevity, The Observation/Coding Booklet is referred to in these notes as the 'Coding Booklet'.*

Pre-course Tasks

Your pre-course activity relates to Module 3. The purpose of the activity is to familiarise you with the general process of administering an ADOS-2 and to introduce some of the behaviours that you will need to note when scoring and coding an ADOS-2. The exercise is particularly relevant if you have no prior experience with the ADOS or ADOS-2 .

Task 1

Watch the example administration of the module on the video. Pay particular attention to the child, but also note the way in which the module is administered.

Task 2

The form *ADOS-2 Introductory Observation* on the next page lists 14 short descriptions of different but overlapping behaviours. The behaviours are typical of those which may be observed during an ADOS-2 administration. Please print the form and complete it as follows:

- For each item in the list, if you think that the child in the video has shown that behaviour tick column 'O' for 'Observed'.
- For each of your ticked items, if you think that the child's behaviour is unusual in any way, also tick column 'U' for 'Unusual'.

For any of the items, you may choose to add a short comment or question.

Don't worry about getting it wrong - you are not going to be assessed on the results of this exercise! The purpose is simply to introduce you to the process and to raise issues for discussion on the course.

Please remember to bring your completed form with you to the course.

ADOS-2 Introductory Observation

Your Name: _____ Child's Name _____

For each of the following behaviours, tick column O (Observed) if you observe the behaviour at all during the video. Also tick column U (Unusual) if you think that there is anything unusual about the observed behaviour. You may choose to add a short comment on any of your observations.

ADOS 2: MODULE 3				
Behaviour		O	U	Comment (optional)
1	Use of sentences in spoken language			
2	Offering information to the examiner			
3	Asking the examiner about his or her thoughts, feelings or experiences			
4	Describing an event outside the immediate environment			
5	Maintaining a conversation with the examiner			
6	Using descriptive gestures to communicate			
7	Making eye contact with the examiner			
8	Using facial expressions to communicate with the examiner			
9	Indicating enjoyment of task or conversation			
10	Recognising the emotions of others (e.g. characters in stories)			
11	Initiating social interaction with the examiner			
12	Appearing comfortable with the situation			
13	Showing creativity and imagination			
14	Repetitive or ritualistic behaviour			

IMPORTANT

Ethical Teaching: Conditions for use of ADOS and ADOS-2 videos

As part of the ADOS-2 training course, you will have access to one or more videos of ADOS / ADOS-2 administrations. These need to be treated with the same confidentiality as patients' case notes and you are expected to fulfil all of the ethical requirements that have been laid down for use. Specifically, you must undertake:

1. Not to copy any of the videos in whole or part.
2. To return all DVDs (if applicable) if and when specified by the course organizers.
3. To restrict viewing of the videos to professional colleagues at your place of work under your personal supervision.
4. To keep DVDs (if applicable) in conditions of strict security.
5. Not to show the videos in any training or teaching situation other than to your immediate colleagues.