

## **UC San Diego**

### **2021 UC San Diego Undergraduate Library Research Prize**

#### **Title**

Disparities in Access to Health Care for Autism in the Latino Community

#### **Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0n9781th>

#### **Author**

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#### **Publication Date**

2021



# Disparities in Access to Health Care for Autism in the Latino Community

(UC Davis, 2015)

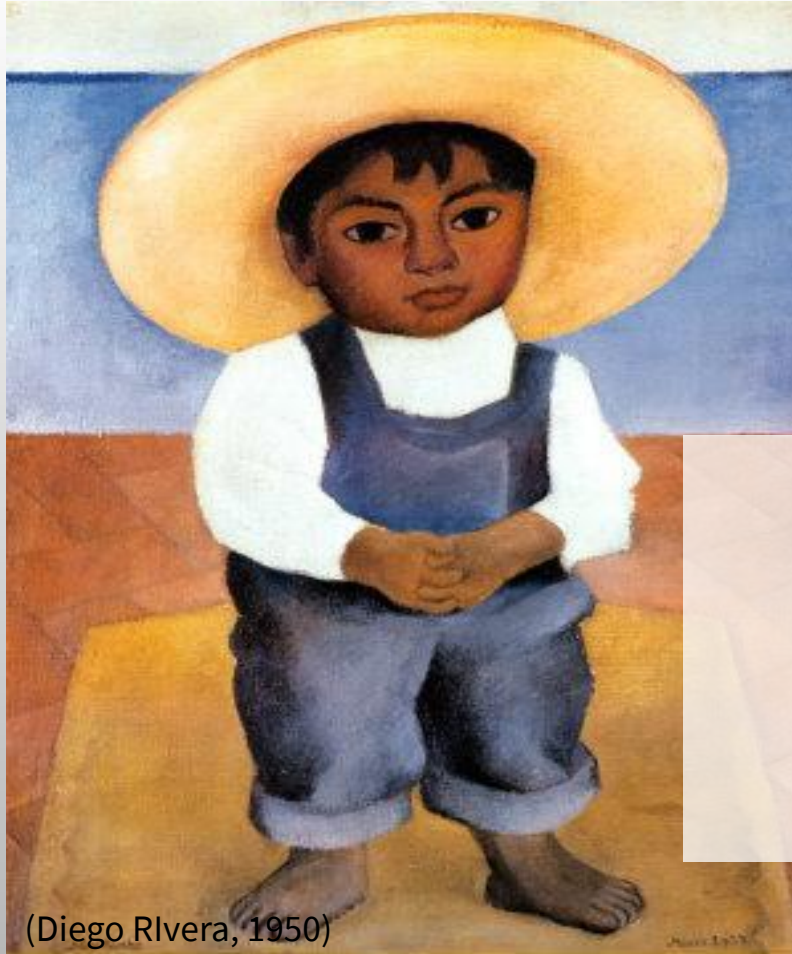
Presented By: Jacqueline Villaseñor. [JVILLASENOR@UCSD.EDU](mailto:JVILLASENOR@UCSD.EDU)



Among **disparities the Latino Community experiences**, the largest of them outlined in this presentation is the **Lack of access to care**.

The **quality medical help exists**, however **lower socioeconomic status Latin Families experience** a significant **difference in the quality of care** they receive versus that of their white counterparts.

There were **multiple factors** my research outlines, however the **most prevalent** is how **blocked access to quality care leads to late diagnosis & treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder**.



(Diego Rivera, 1950)



## What is Autism?



## Early signs of Autism

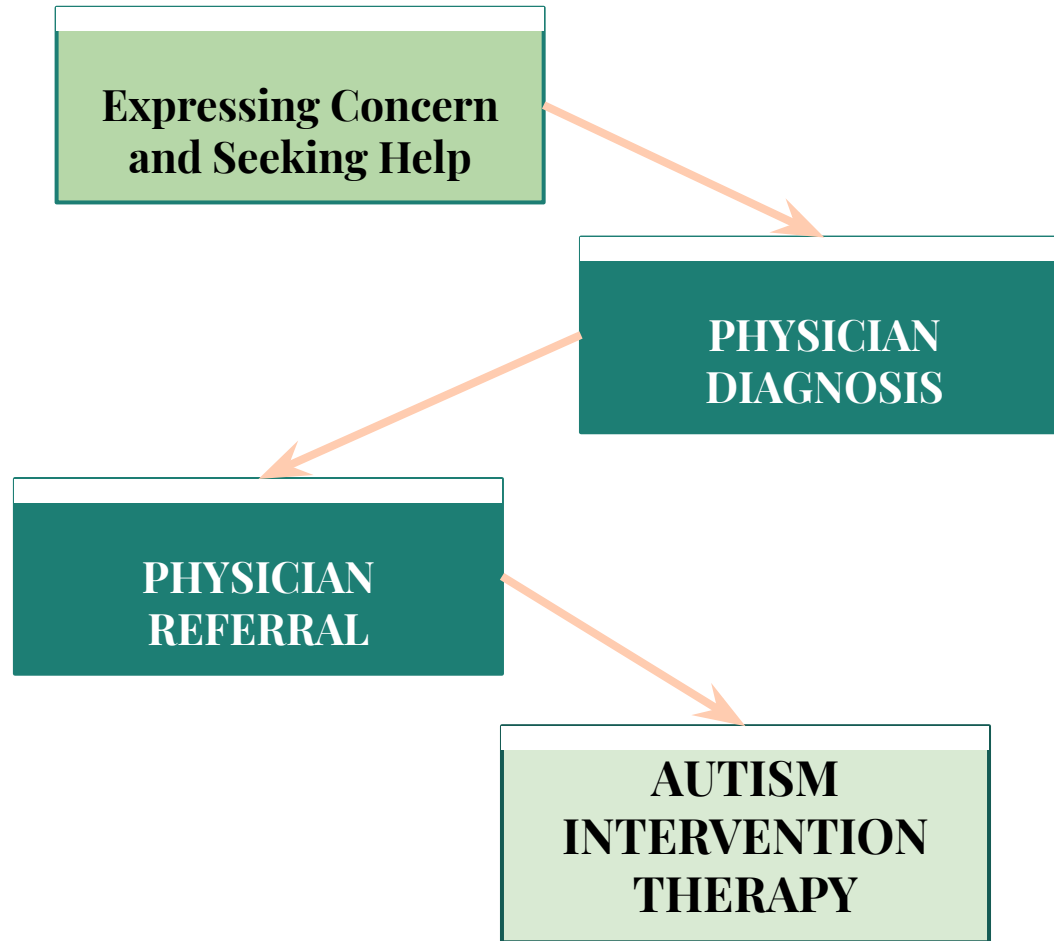


(Diego Rivera,  
1960)

## Autism Interventions :

- Developmental pragmatic approaches
- Applied behaviour analysis (ABA) or EIBI
- Comprehensive environmental systems



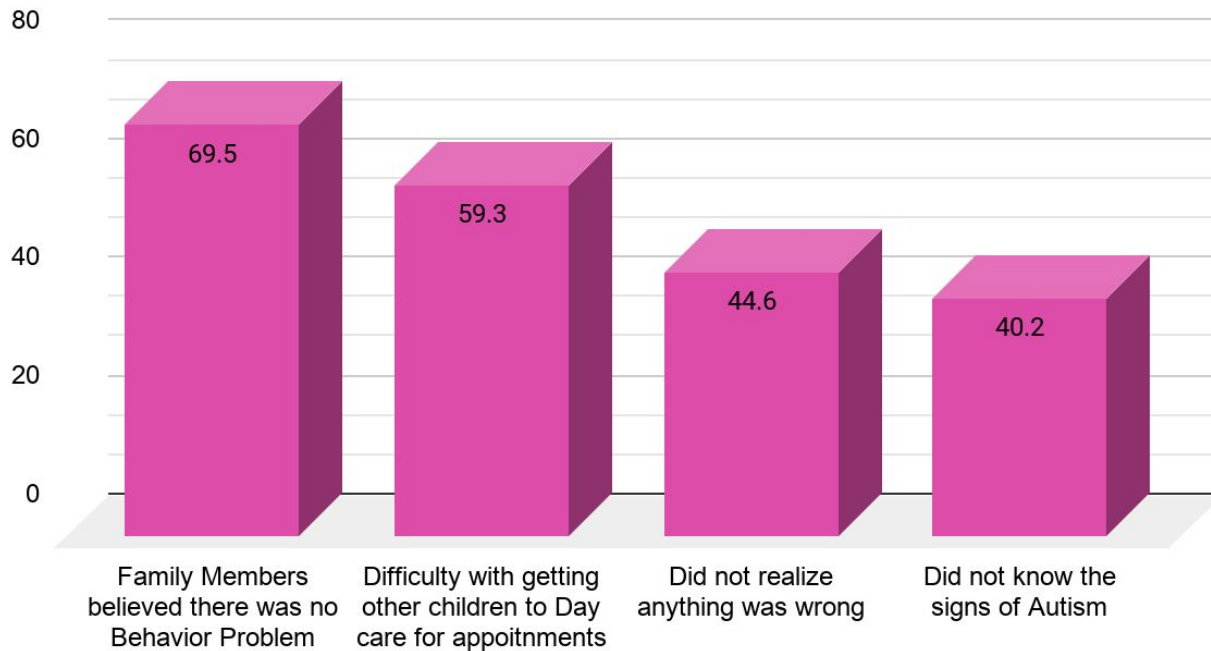


# The 'Cultural' and 'Personal' Barriers

*“Obstacles Faced by Latina Mothers of Children with Autism”*

Emily D Iland, Ivor Weiner, Wendy W. Murawski.

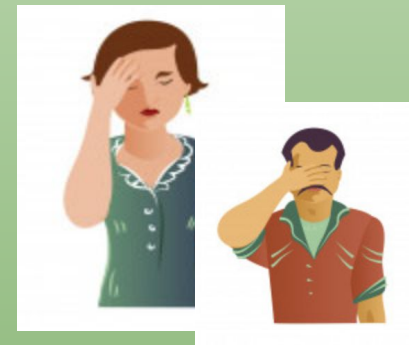
Percentage of Latina Mothers Endorsing Personal Barriers



**96 Spanish Speaking Latina Mothers of Children with Autism**

**Cross Sectional Study:**  
Observational study using two surveys.

**Caring for my Child Survey**



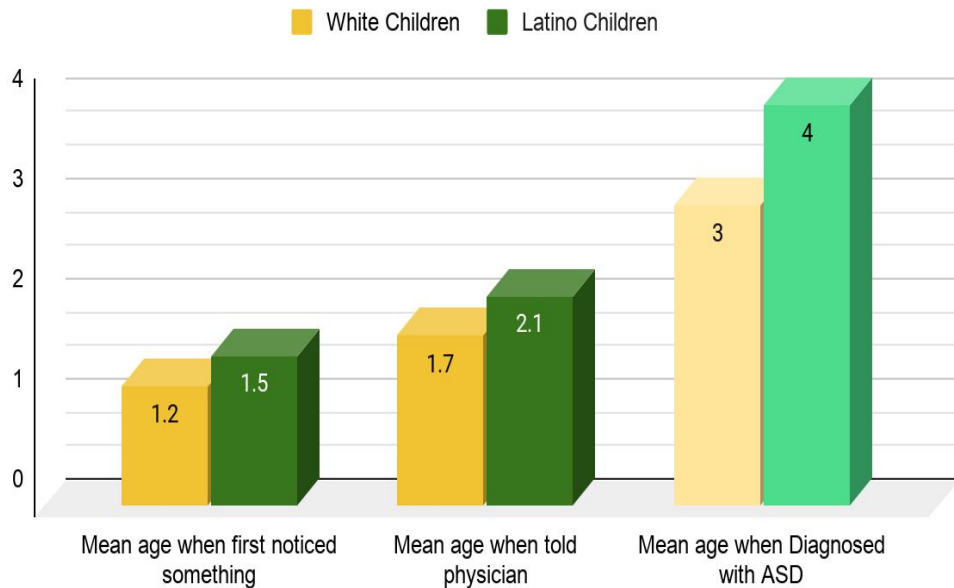
# The 'Knowledge of ASD' and access to information Barrier

*"Access to Diagnosis and Treatment services among Latino Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders."*

Sandra Magana, Kristina Lopez, Arellys Aguina, Holly Morton



## Average Age of Diagnosis of Non-Latino White children Vs. Latino Children



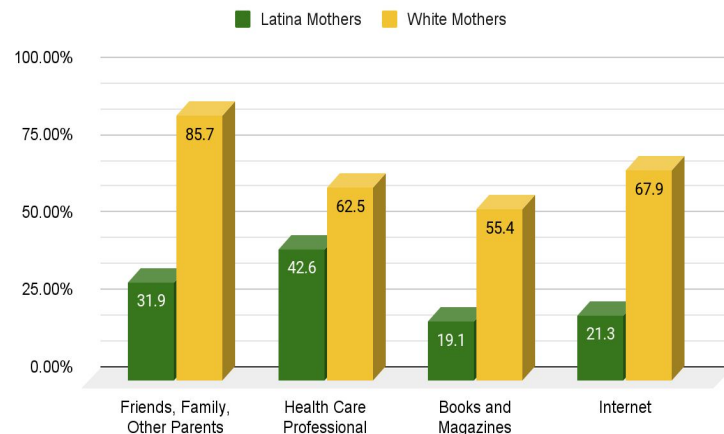
**104 Children Studied**

**- 48 Latino children**

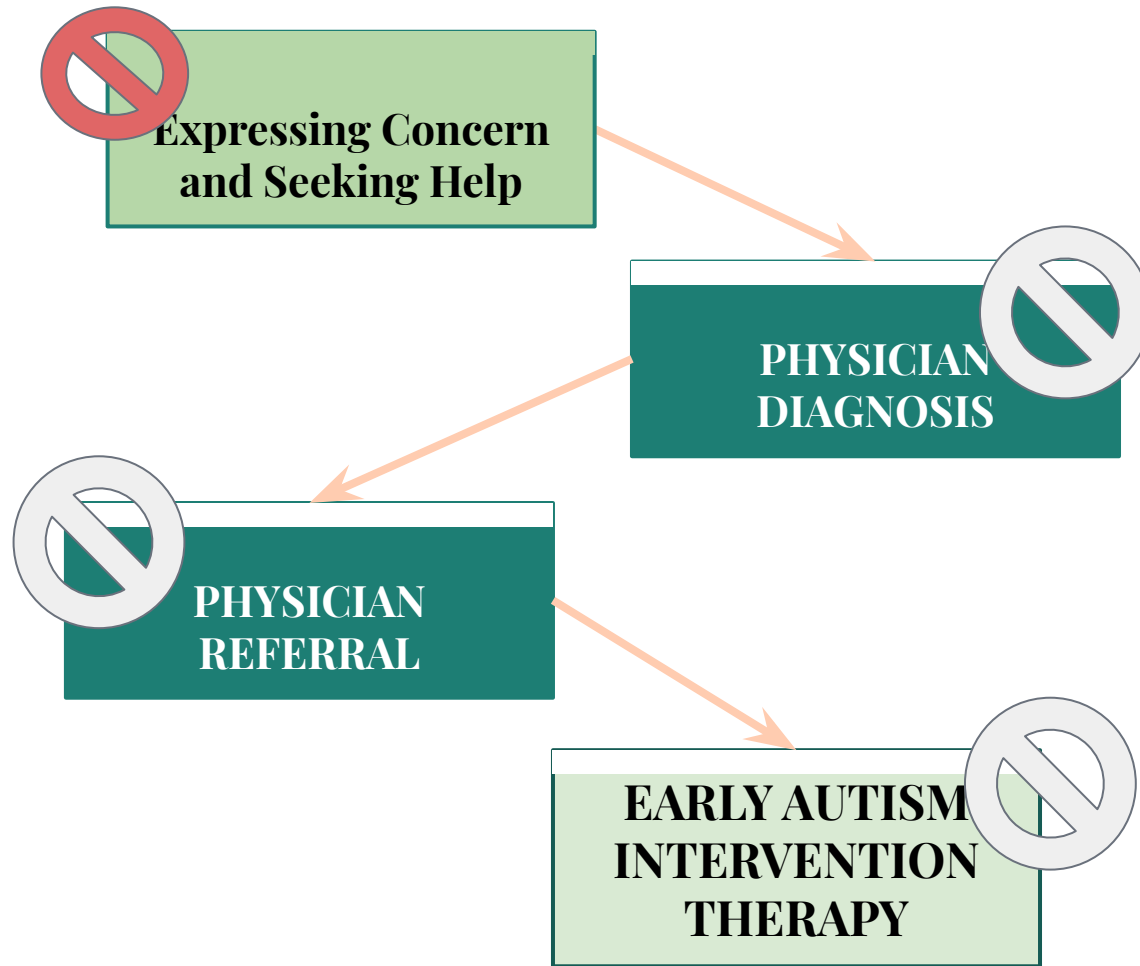
**- 56 non-latino white children**

**Cohort Study: Studying two groups of people, hispanic children vs. white children with Autism Spectrum disorder.**

## Where Parents learned about Autism





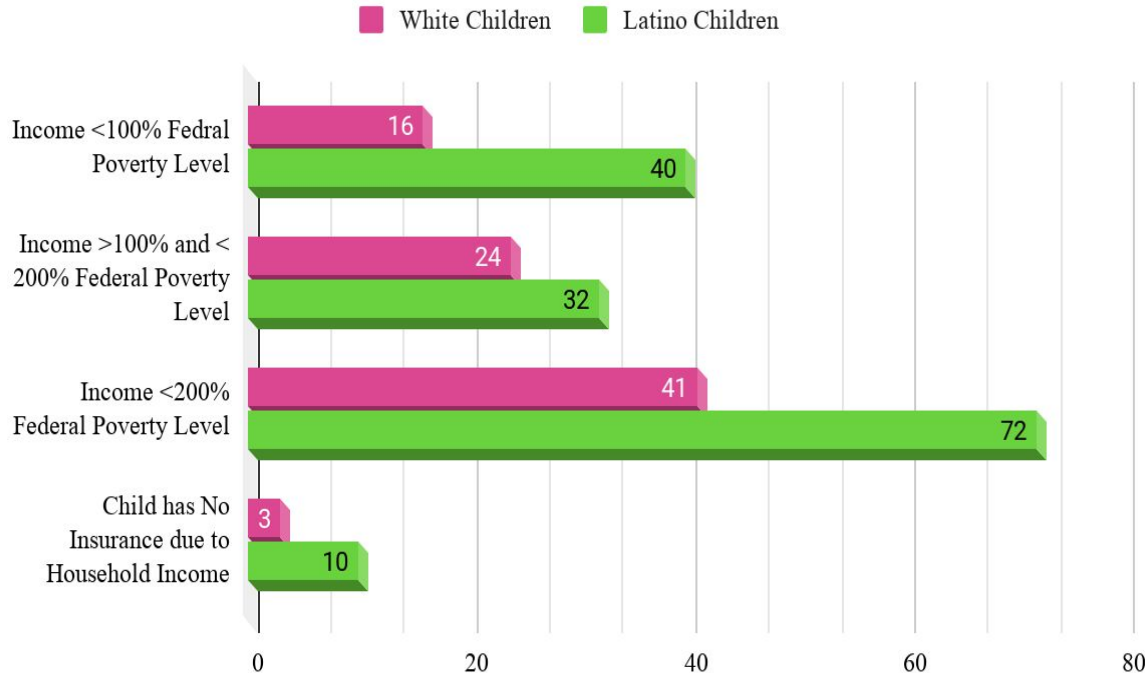


# The 'Socioeconomic' Barrier

*Access to Diagnosis and Treatment services among Latino Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.*

**Sandra Magana, Kristina Lopez, Arellys Aguina, Holly Morton**

Family Socioeconomic Status of White vs. Latino Children with ASD



**N=4,414 children with Autism & other Developmental disabilities Studied.**

**- 665 Latino Children  
- 3,762 White Children**

**Cross Sectional Study:  
Observational study using  
surveys.**

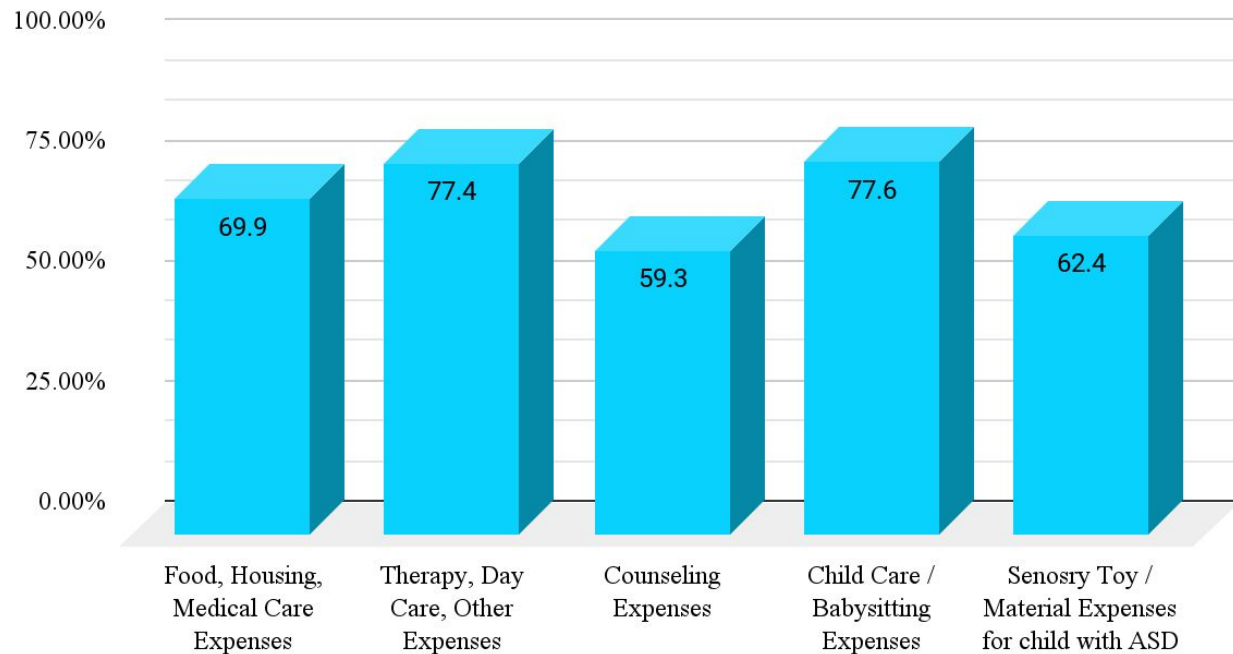


# The Financial Barrier for Latina Mothers

*“Obstacles Faced by Latina Mothers of Children with Autism*

*Emily D Iland, Ivor Weiner, Wendy W. Murawski.*

Percent of Latina Mothers endorsing Financial Obstacles

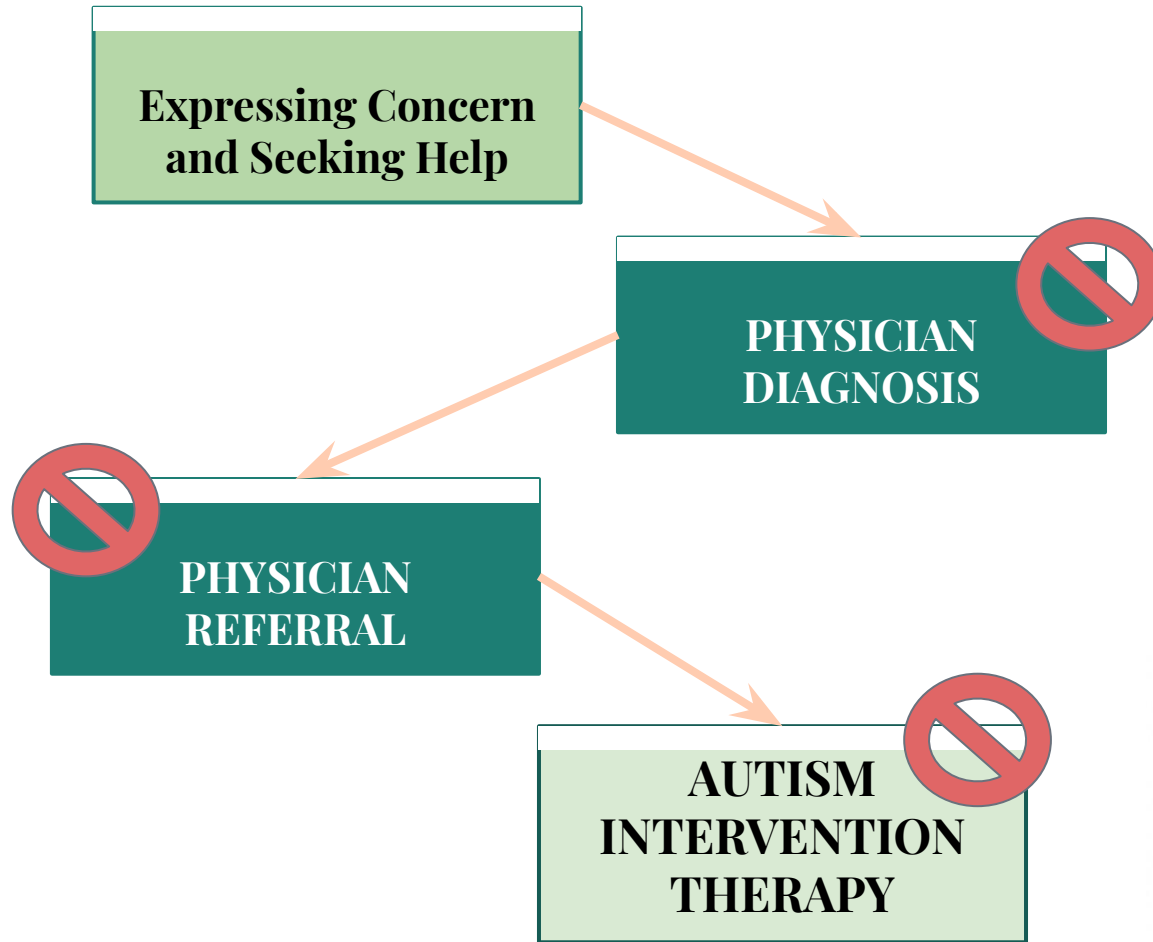


**96 Spanish Speaking Latina Mothers of Children with Autism**

**Cross Sectional Study:**  
**Observational study using two surveys.**

**Family Needs Survey**





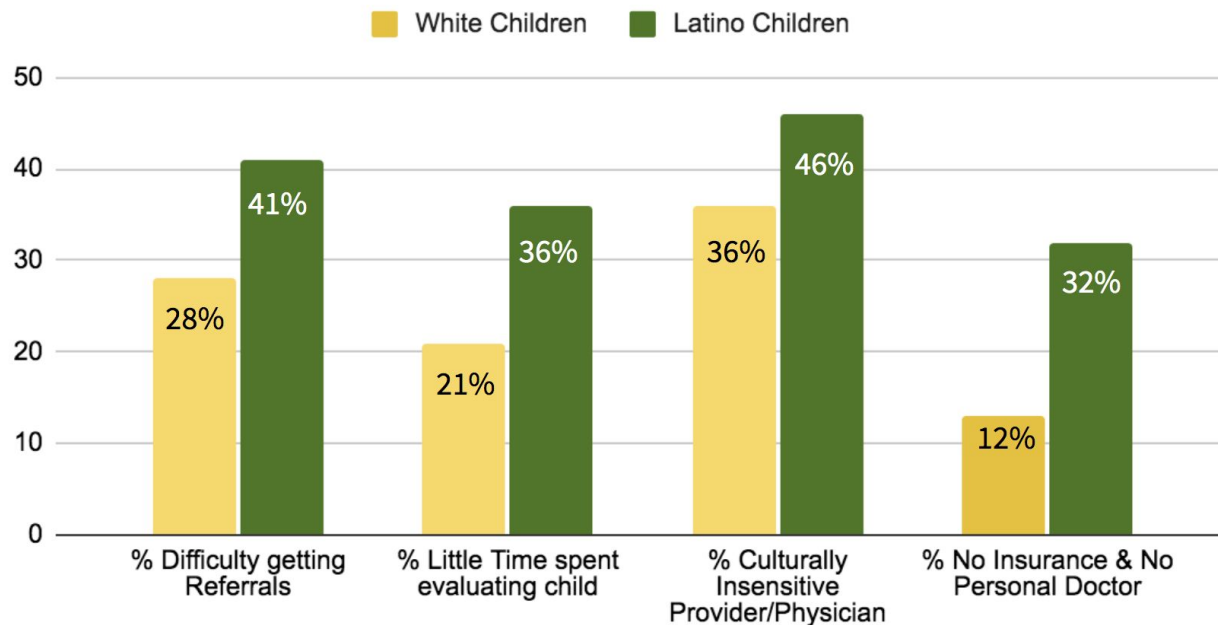
# The 'Quality and Access to Primary Care' Barrier

Research Article 2:

“Health care of Latino children with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities; Quality of Provider Interaction Mediates Utilization.”

Susan Parish, Roderick Rose, Maria Timberlake, Jamie G. Swaine

## Comparison Between White and Latino Children on Health Care Utilization, Quality, & Access to Care



N=4,414 children with Autism & other Developmental disabilities Studied.

- 665 Latino Children
- 3,762 White Children

Cross Sectional Study:  
Observational study using surveys.



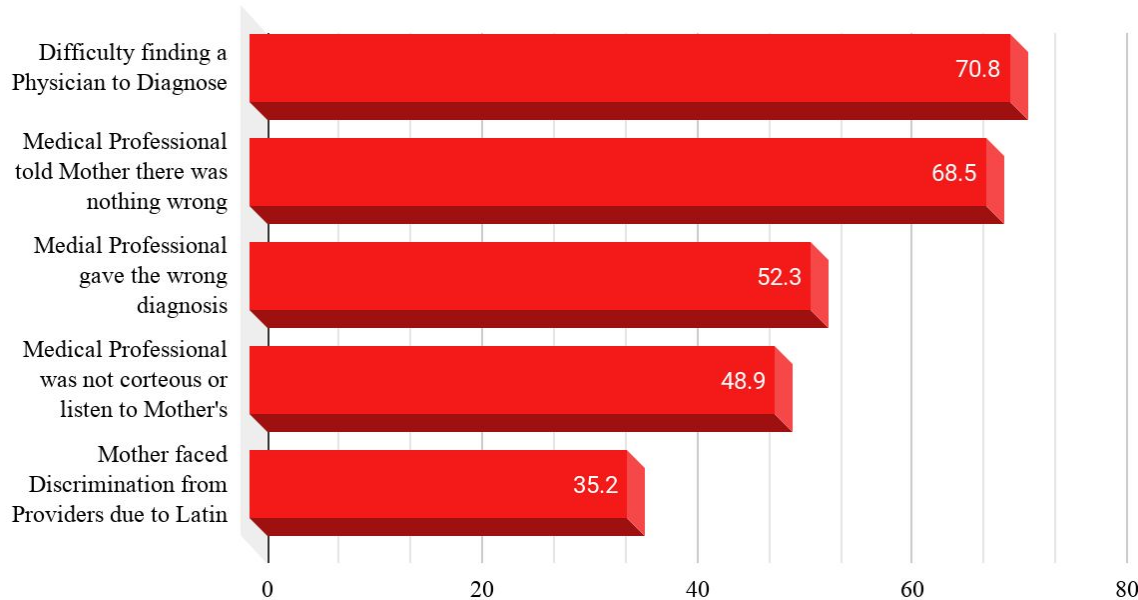


# The 'Dismissive Physician' Barrier

*"Obstacles Faced by Latina Mothers of Children with Autism"*

Emily D Iland, Ivor Weiner, Wendy W. Murawski.

## Percentage of Latina Mothers endorsing Physician Dismissal

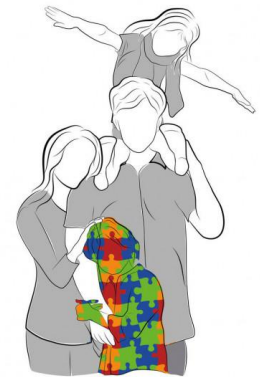
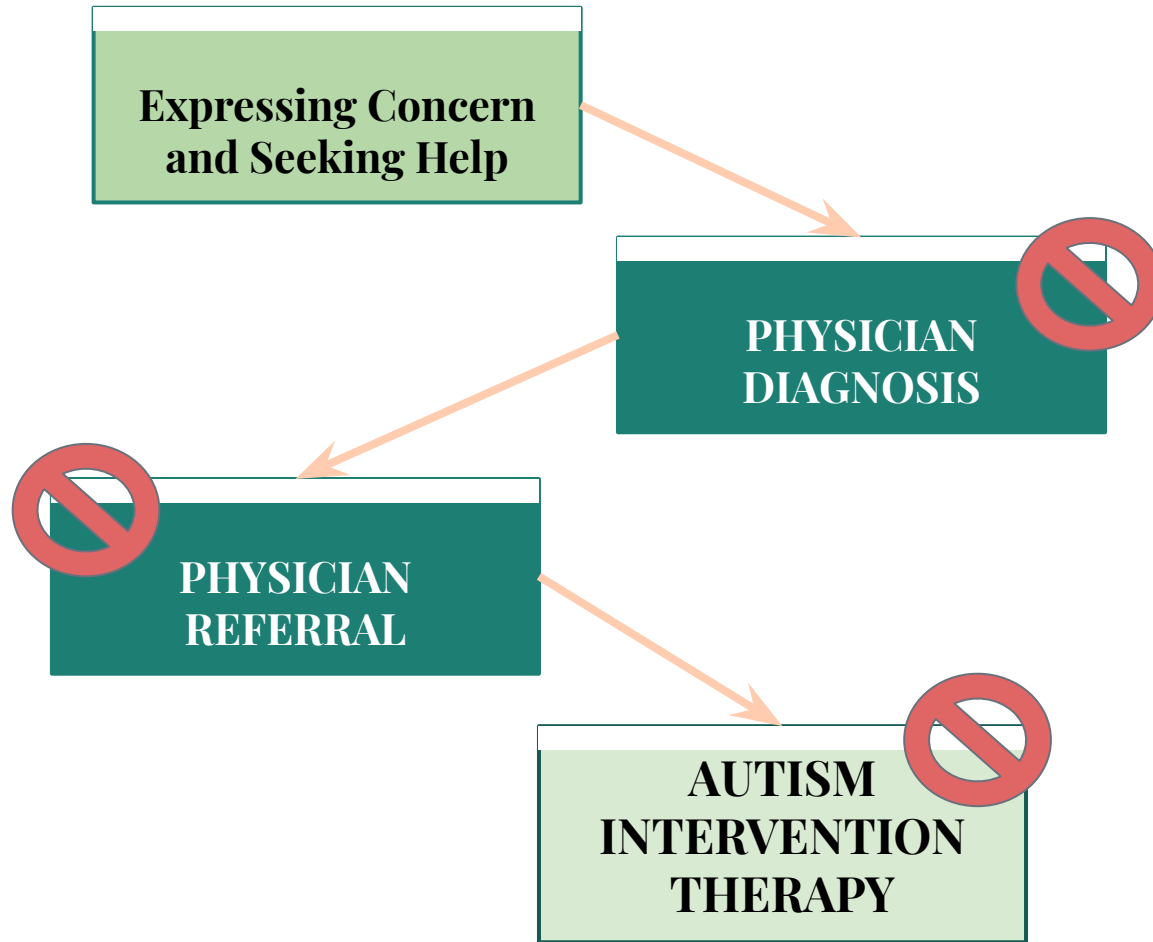


**96 Spanish Speaking Latina Mothers of Children with Autism**

**Cross Sectional Study:  
Observational study using two surveys.**

**Caring for my Child Survey**





# ***Benefits of early intervention of ABA Clinical/Behavioral Therapy***

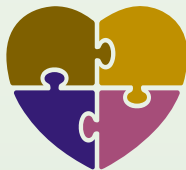


- Evidence base for the effectiveness of interventions for children with autism is limited
- A number of randomised control trials have shown benefits across a number of outcome measures:
  - Early social communication
  - Reduced problem behavior
  - Increased functional Behavior

## Further Implications: SCREENING



- **SCREENING** OF INFANTS  
EVERY CHILD VISIT FOR  
AUTISM SPECTRUM  
DISORDER AND OTHER  
DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES



- **INSURANCE ELIGIBILITY AND  
COVERAGE** OF ALL SPECIALTY  
SERVICES AND 'EXPERIMENTAL'  
TECHNIQUES REGARDLESS OF  
ETHNIC OR FINANCIAL BARRIERS

**Expressing Concern  
and Seeking Help**

**PHYSICIAN  
DIAGNOSIS**

**PHYSICIAN  
REFERRAL**

**AUTISM  
INTERVENTION  
THERAPY**





**THANK YOU PROVOST CARVER FOR ALL  
YOUR HELP IN THE DEVELOPMENT,  
GUIDANCE, AND FEEDBACK ON MY  
RESEARCH AND PRESENTATION!**



# Conclusion

The disparities the Latinx community experience will possibly never disappear, but these policy implications could make a significant difference.

**Increasing the coverage of insurance allowing families screening for developmental disabilities in infants for them** means :

**parents can get the help they need for their children and Children have the opportunity to receive care sooner than later** without their lack of knowledge or low income status getting in the way of their overall health.

(Clinica de la  
Comunidad, 2018)





