

Publication**A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Long-Term Overall Outcome of Autism Spectrum Disorders in Adolescence and Adulthood****JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)****ID** 3509453**Author(s)** Steinhausen, H.-C.; Mohr Jensen, C.; Lauritsen, M. B.**Author(s) at UniBasel** [Steinhausen, Hans-Christoph](#) ;**Year** 2016**Title** A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Long-Term Overall Outcome of Autism Spectrum Disorders in Adolescence and Adulthood**Journal** Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica**Volume** 133**Number** 6**Pages / Article-Number** 445-452**Keywords** Autism spectrum disorders; adults; follow-up; outcome**Mesh terms** Adolescent; Adult; Autism Spectrum Disorder, psychology; Child; Follow-Up Studies; Humans; Prognosis; Young Adult

A systematic review and meta-analysis of studies reporting on the overall outcome in terms of a global measure of adjustment in children with autistic disorders followed up in adolescence and adulthood.; PubMed, PsycINFO, and EMBASE were systematically searched on 3rd of August 2015. Included studies were analyzed using random-effects models estimating event rates (%) and 95% confidence intervals (95%CI).; From 4350 records identified in the search, 15 studies covering 12 unique samples and a total of N = 828 individuals with autistic disorders were included in the analyses. An estimated 19.7% (95%CI: 14.2-26.6) had a good outcome, 31.1% (95%CI: 23.2-40.4%) a fair outcome, and 47.7% (95%CI: 36.6-59.0) a poor outcome. The meta-analysis showed strong evidence for heterogeneity. The subtype of childhood autism is a significant moderating factor on the risk of having a poor outcome at follow-up, whereas age at follow-up showed statistically significant but inconsistent associations with outcome status.; The long-term outcome of almost half of all individuals with autistic disorders is poor. The subtype of autism in childhood may be a predictor for specific long-term outcomes, but in general, little is known about the pathways and predictors.

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