

AUTISM AND FEEDING STRUGGLES

how are they related

Eating is the only bodily task that requires the use of every organ and all of the senses. Many children with Autism Spectrum Disorder have difficulties with sensory processing and this can make eating certain foods a challenge for them.

RESEARCHERS FOUND that

69%

OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER WERE UNWILLING TO TRY NEW FOODS

& ANOTHER FORTY SIX PERCENT HAD RITUALS SURROUNDING THEIR EATING HABITS



—Williams, Dalrymple, Neal; 2000

FEEDING STRUGGLES ARE OFTEN UNDERLYING SYMPTOMS FOR OVER

TWO HUNDRED FOUR DIAGNOSES

—Judarwanto; 2009

GASTROINTESTINAL SYMPTOMS OCCUR IN NEARLY

50% of children with autism spectrum disorder

AAP; 2013



90% OF PARENTS WITH CHILDREN WHO HAVE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER REPORTED THAT THEIR CHILDREN HAD PROBLEMS AT MEALTIMES

—DeMeyer, 1979

PICKY EATING INCLUDES FOOD REFUSAL, LIMITED VARIETY, SPECIFICITY IN PRESENTATION, DISRUPTIVE MEALTIME BEHAVIORS, AND TEXTURE SPECIFICITY

50%

OF 18-24 MONTH OLDS ARE DESCRIBED AS PICKY EATERS BY THEIR MOTHERS

—Carruth; 2004

Thank you to Top Shelf Design for their wonderful work in creating this infographic for Feeding Matters. The President and Owner has a son who struggled with eating and believes in our vision of conquering pediatric feeding struggles to nourish healthy futures!