

# **Dissecting Known Factors in Autistic Spectrum Disorders: Introduction to the 18<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Neuro-Developmental Delay in Children with Specific Learning Difficulties (Chester, U.K., March 18/19, 2006)**

**Sally Goddard Blythe, BSc. FRSA**

The Institute for Neuro-Physiological Psychology

1, Stanley Street

Chester, UK CH1 2LR.

Email: mail@inpp.org.uk Website: www.inpp.org.uk

---

## **Abstract**

This introduction to the conference provides a general overview of subjects to be covered by individual speakers with particular focus on Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD's). The introduction discusses the rising tide of ASD's in the western world, problems of consistent diagnosis, comorbidity and the functional links between abnormal sensory perception, dysfunction of posture, balance and motor skills, early feeding problems and disorders of biochemistry. The developmental histories of 9 children in the U.K. and 16 children in Italy diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Disorders from conception to diagnosis are traced and the results discussed in relation to differences in presenting symptoms, causes and possible pre-disposing factors.

© Copyright 2006, Pearblossom Private School, Inc.—Publishing Division. All rights reserved.

*Keywords:* autism, asperger's syndrome, postural control, vestibular functioning, proprioception, feeding problems

---