Comorbidity in autism spectrum disorder and developmental language impairments

Individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), as well as those with developmental language impairments, frequently manifest the features of other disorders. Comorbidity in autism and many forms of developmental language impairment could reasonably be considered the rule, rather than the exception. Furthermore, language impairments may also feature in other disorders such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or Down syndrome, in which communication impairments are not core diagnostic features. The purpose of this special issue is to address the nature, underlying causes, and effect of comorbid disorders among people with any form of developmental communication impairment. We welcome both basic and applied research on the issue of comorbidity, and encourage papers covering one or more of the following topics:

- Identification and measurement of comorbid features;
- Underlying causes and mechanisms of comorbidity;
- The influence of comorbidity on the outcomes of people with autism/developmental language impairment;
- Reviews of comorbidities that involve people with language impairments;
- Specific language impairment in children who have atypical sensory development, who are deaf or blind;
- Longitudinal studies of changing child profiles across disorders;
- Large scale surveys or qualitative studies reporting the voices / perspectives of young people with language impairment regarding additional or comorbid difficulties.

This is not an exhaustive list of possible content, and all content related to comorbidity in individuals developmental communication difficulties will be considered.

Information about the journal and guidelines for authors can be found at: adli.sagepub.com

If you would like a paper to be considered for this special issue, please submit your manuscript on the journal’s online submission portal at: https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/adli, no later than 1st June 2016.

Author guidelines, and details of the journal’s aims and mission can be found at: adli.sagepub.com

Any queries about papers for this special issue can be directed to Associate Editor, David Williams, d.m.williams@kent.ac.uk