

RE: Raphael Ellis Osei- Ghansah
Date of Birth: 18-05-2016
Age: 4years 11months

Raphael has been diagnosed with **Autism Spectrum Disorder, Level 2** (moderate). This means that after assessment this evaluator found that there are significant qualitative impairments in communication skills and social skills. What this means is that he is not communicating in the typical way we expect for his age and he is also not interacting in the typical way we expect. The way he interacts and perceives the environment is also different and this may result in unusual behaviors, repetitive behaviors, and unexpected reactions to everyday sensory stimuli and big emotional reactions that you may not always understand or expect. When a child has these characteristics and is significantly impacted by them we say the child has Autism Spectrum Disorder. The diagnosis was arrived by using different psychological and developmental tools including but not limited to Autism Diagnostic Interview revised, Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule, Gillian Autism Rating Scale.

Every child or individual who is diagnosed with Autism is unique. Children and individuals with Autism do not look a particular way or behave in one particular way.

About half of the children who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder will have average or above average intelligence and the other half will have below average intelligence. This may become clearer as the child grows and develops. Formal cognitive testing may be done if he is found to have academic difficulties by age 5 years before grade one.

Even though Autism Spectrum Disorder does not have a cure, early diagnosis and treatment produces good outcomes.

These are the recommended steps and treatments for him.

- Start intensive speech/ communication therapy. He has been referred for speech therapy.
- He may benefit from behavior therapy. This therapist can help him stop unwanted behaviors and improve desired behaviors. This therapist can also help him with learning strategies and guide educators on the best way to engage him in school. He has been referred to one.



mission PEDIATRICS

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- Raphael may also benefit from occupational therapy. This therapist will help him become more independent in areas like every day living skills, toilet training, writing etc. This therapist also offers sensory integration therapy that is useful for children who have lots of sensory needs.
- There is no drug that cures Autism Spectrum Disorder but if he has challenges with inattention, hyperactivity, sleep, anxiety, obsessive-compulsive behavior, severe aggression or seizures medication may be indicated. We will be starting him on omega 3 supplements and a good multivitamin that includes zinc. He will need to take these supplements daily for at least a year.
- He will need therapy for at least two years. The decision to continue therapy depends on how well and how fast he responds to therapy.
- I will continue to follow up on his progress every three months for the first year and every six months after that.
- Parents and educators may access some useful resources from the link below

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1gn9CTCLlm5K0gzcppjvFdeAirxVp65fa?usp=sharing>

Thank you for involving me in his care



Dr. Marilyn Marbell-Wilson
MB, ChB. MWACP. MGCP
Neuro Developmental Pediatrician (University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada)

Recommendation for transfer for Mercy Ayorkor Mensah

The mother of Raphael, Mercy Ayorkor Mensah is the assistant senior House mistress and also the head of department – Home economics of Mpohor senior secondary school. Due to Raphael’s significant needs, it is recommended that she is granted her request for transfer to Shama to enable her be near her family and offer the required needs to her son. This is very important for Raphael’s progress and development.

Kindly offer her all the needed assistance to make this possible.



Dr. Marilyn Marbell-Wilson
MB, ChB. MWACP. MGCP
Neuro Developmental Pediatrician (University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada)