

**Are you a Parent of a teenager or adult with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?  
Would you like better health services in Ontario for your teenage or adult son or daughter?**

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*My doctor takes the time to listen. She schedules appointments at the end of the day so we get the time we need.*

*Doctors' visits take up less than 10% of her life... but are a constant source of aggravation.*

*My son has always been treated by his paediatrician... he is now 22 and our doctor is saying that she really can't see him anymore but we don't know anyone willing to take him on. What are we supposed to do?*

*My daughter has to be put under to have a dental exam. So we work with our family doctor, dentist and neurologist to plan this in advance and organize all of the other examinations that have to get done for the same time. Otherwise, we would never be able to do blood work for her seizure meds and other things that come up.*

*In our small town hospital, the nurse who took him to surgery also works with him part-time on the weekends ...it was so personal.*

*When we go to emergency, we don't go into a cubicle...we get a room all to ourselves.*

*I waited with my son in the mental health ward for 4 hours before anyone came to talk to us. The person that came to talk to him was a caseworker, new to the hospital. She was very nice but didn't seem to know very much. She did not do an assessment, just determined that he no longer needed to be at the hospital and said he could leave*

*It keeps me up at night... people are trying to work within a broken health system.*

**What has your experience been like using health services such as doctors, dentists or psychologists for your son or daughter?** We have heard stories from parents describing both poor and excellent care. We want to understand better why things work well, and why they fail. It is only with your involvement as parents that we can learn what works and what doesn't and share this information with doctors and other health professionals, government and families like you to bring about change.

This project will ask you questions about your recent contact with health professionals regarding your adolescent (12+) or adult son or daughter with ASD. The first set of questions takes about 30 minutes, and follow-ups over the next year take 10 minutes or less. We want to know if your son or daughter is getting the health care he or she needs, what types of health services he or she is using and your satisfaction with these services. Also, if you are not using any services, we would like to know why and whether you are satisfied with your situation. Your voice is important and we need to hear from you!

Parents will receive an honorarium for their time.

If you would like to participate, click on the following link:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Family\\_Study\\_Consent](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Family_Study_Consent)

or call Maggie Slusarczyk at Tel: 416-535-8501 Ext 7806.

