

GQ-ASC Scale for Adult Women

This screening questionnaire is designed to identify behaviours and abilities in women that are associated with autism.

Instructions: Here is a list of questions and statements. Please read each question and statement very carefully, and rate how strongly you agree or disagree with it by circling your answer.

Modified GQ-ASC	Definitely disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Definitely agree
Imagination and play				
1. I enjoy fantasy worlds	1	2	3	4
2. I am interested in fiction	1	2	3	4
3. When I was 5-12 years old, I played as imaginatively as other girls	1	2	3	4
4. When I was 5-12 years old, I had imaginary friends or imaginary animals	1	2	3	4
5. When I was 5-12 years old, I created my own complex 'set ups' with toys	1	2	3	4
Camouflaging				
6. I copy or 'clone' myself on other females	1	2	3	4
7. I avidly observe other females socialising	1	2	3	4
8. I am attracted to females with strong personalities who tell me what to do	1	2	3	4
9. I adopt a different persona in different situations	1	2	3	4
Sensory Sensitivities				
10. I am attached to certain objects or toys (e.g., favourite toy, pillow, piece of cloth) which I carry, touch, or rub to calm myself	1	2	3	4
11. I expressed distress during grooming (e.g., I fought or cried during fingernail cutting, haircutting, combing) or when I am touched (e.g., someone touches my feet)	1	2	3	4
12. Some social situations make me mute	1	2	3	4
13. I am distressed by certain smells or I avoid certain tastes that are a typical part of a diet	1	2	3	4

Modified GQ-ASC	Definitely disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Definitely agree
Socialising				
14. I socialise quite well for a while, but subsequently feel exhausted	1	2	3	4
15. I often have a facial 'mask' that hides my social confusion	1	2	3	4
16. I have intense emotions	1	2	3	4
17. I apologise when I make a social error	1	2	3	4
Interests				
18. When I was 5-12 years old, I preferred to play with girls' toys	1	2	3	4
19. When I was 5-12 years old, I preferred to play with boys' toys	1	2	3	4
20. My interests were advanced for my age (e.g., opera)	1	2	3	4
21. I am talented in music	1	2	3	4

SCORING:

Sum all response values to calculate the total score.

A total score of greater than 56 indicates a high level of autistic traits; sensitive to 80% of cases.

Citation:

Brown, C.M., Attwood, T., Garnett M., & Stokes, M.A. (2020), 'Am I Autistic? Utility of the Girls Questionnaire for Autism Spectrum Condition as an Autism Assessment in Adult Women. *Autism In Adulthood*, 2 (3), 216-226. <http://doi.org/10.1089/aut.2019.0054>

The article published in *Autism Adulthood* has a copy of the questionnaire in the appendix. In the original study, several item were reverse-scored, but the questionnaire above is the version for clinical use and **does not need to be reverse-scored**.