

Supplementary material 1: Read (CTV3) codes for autism

Read (CTV3) code	Read (CTV3) code description	Number of times recorded in GP data extract for cohort
X00TM	Autistic spectrum disorder	102
XE2v2	Childhood autism	49
XabEY	Under care of autism assessment service	5
X00TN	Atypical autism	4
E1400	Active infantile autism	3
X00TP	Asperger syndrome	1

164 Read codes identified for 128 children. Some children have more than one Read code (for example, all those recorded as “under the care of autism assessment service” had a code for “Autism spectrum disorder” or “Childhood autism”).

Supplementary material 2: Child age at autism diagnosis and cumulative prevalence rate by age group

2a: Age of child at GP data extract and age of diagnosis of autism

Age at GP extract	Age of child first autism recorded in GP records							Total
	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	
Five	0	10	6	6				22
Six	1	7	14	11	4			37
Seven	2	3	11	12	2	3		33
Eight	0	7	4	6	4	5	4	30
Nine	0	1	1	3	0	1	0	6
Total	3	28	36	38	10	9	4	128

2b: Cumulative prevalence rates (per hundred children)

Age at GP extract	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight
Five/ Six (n = 5,550)	0.018	0.324	0.685	0.991	1.063		
Seven/ Eight (n = 6,878)	0.029	0.189	0.422	0.727	0.814	0.945	1.003