

Supplementary Methods

Search strategy

Web of KnowledgeSM database by Thomson Reuters® (including Web of Science, MEDLINE®, KCI – Korean Journal Database, Russian Science Citation Index and SciELO Citation Index) was searched from January 1980 to December 2016, using the “topic” function of the database, which allowed the title, abstract, keywords, and other fields to be analysed at the same time. The following search string was used:

((autis* OR (developm* AND disorder) OR asperger OR Kanner OR ASD OR PDD)) AND ((RCT OR trial OR observational OR open label OR prospective OR longitudinal OR randomized OR cohort))

The unfiltered result uncovered 100635 items (98382 after removing duplicates).

Each item was screened independently by two authors resulting in 3486 screened publication for full text reading. Manual search of the relevant literature uncovered a further 77 potential studies.

Selection procedure

Selection criteria:

- a) original articles, published in a peer reviewed scientific journal, written in English;
- b) studies including subjects with a PDD or ASD diagnosis (including previous classification (ex. infantile autism);
- c) study design: randomized controlled trials (RCT) or observational longitudinal studies (non-randomized trials) comparing at least two different interventions directed to ASD subjects or one treatment and placebo (or equivalent, ex. sham stimulation for transcranial magnetic stimulation, waiting list of treatment as usual (TAU) for psychotherapy);
- d) studies reporting clinical outcome.

Exclusion criteria:

- a) review, meta-analysis, case report, congress abstracts, and articles in languages other than English;
- b) studies with retrospective observational design or longitudinal observational design without a comparison group;
- c) studies investigating the effect of an indirect treatment (ex. intervention directed towards the parents);
- d) studies failing to report a clinical outcome measure (ex. biomarkers and imaging were not considered clinical outcome measures).

The selection procedure yielded to 406 trials (reported in 402 papers). 325 papers fitted the exclusion criterion a), 443 fitted the exclusion criterion b), 2100 fitted the exclusion criterion c), 216 did not reported any clinical outcome measures. In this group, most of the trials limited the investigation to laboratory test, neuro-imaging analysis, or indirect measure of a clinical response (ex. parental distress).

Coding of variables

Several continuous and categorical variables were extracted, as specified in the main document. Only two continuous variables were coded as categorical to simplify interpretation of the results:

- length of follow-up was coded as:
 - <12 weeks;
 - ≥ 12 weeks.
- age of the sample was coded as:
 - studies including only children if the max age was <18 years old;
 - studies including only adults if the min age was ≥ 18 years;

- studies including both children and adults if the age range extended though the threshold.

The intelligence quotient (IQ) assessment, included the range of assessed IQ (inclusion range if the former data was not available), mean IQ of the sample, and IQ assessment tool.

The type of intervention was coded as:

- Pharmaceutical: if the treatment involved the use of over-the-counter or prescription drugs (e.g. antipsychotics, antidepressants, stimulants...)
- Nutraceutical: if the intervention involved the use of dietary supplements or functional foods (e.g. omega-3, vitamins, gluten-free diet...)
- Psychotherapy: if the intervention used a manualized or non-manualized form of psychotherapy treatment technique (e.g. cognitive behavioural therapy, psychodynamic treatments, acceptance and commitment therapy...)
- Educational: if the treatment used a psychoeducational program, or any program that helped delivering information about the diagnosis (including possible causes and symptoms), management (including associated risks/side-effects) and prognosis, and how affected individuals can stay well (Jones, 2018)

Each outcome assessment tool was recorded and ascertained to be validated for clinical use or at least cited in previous peer-reviewed publications. An outcome assessment tool was considered as ad-hoc if:

- not reporting a specific methodology that could be clearly identifiable in previous publications;
- modified or adapted version of a standardised assessment tool;
- stated as an ad-hoc measure.

Quality assessment

Given the lack of consensus in assessing the quality of reporting in non-randomised trials, we limited the quality assessment to RCT adopting the Cochrane Risk of Bias tool (Higgins et al., 2011). The quality assessment was performed by at least two authors for each study and any doubt was resolved through consensus with a third author.

Supplementary results

Table s1. Included studies

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Adams et al., 2004	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	20	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Adams et al., 2011	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	104	PDDBI; ATEC; SAS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Adkins et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	36		Sleep diary; CSHQ;	United States
Akhondzadeh et al., 2004	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;	CARS;	Iran
Akhondzadeh et al., 2008	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;		Iran
Akhondzadeh et al., 2010	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;		Iran
Al-Ayadhi et al., 2013	Nutraceutical	RCT head to head	60	CARS;		Saudi Arabia
Al-Ayadhi et al., 2015	Nutraceutical	RCT head to head	65	CARS; SRS; ATEC;		Saudi Arabia
Aldred et al., 2004	Educational	RCT parallel group	28	ADOS;	VABS; MCDI; PSI; Ad hoc scale;	United Kingdom
Allam et al., 2008	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	20	Ad hoc scale;		Egypt
Almirall et al., 2016	Educational	RCT SMART design	61	Ad hoc scale;	ESCS; SPA; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Aman et al., 2010	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	308	ABC;	ABC;	United States
Amatachaya et al., 2014	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	20	CARS; ATEC; CGAS;	CGI-I;	Thailand
Amatachaya et al., 2015	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	20	ATEC;		Thailand
Amminger et al., 2007	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	12	ABC;		Austria
Anagnostou et al., 2012	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	19	RBS; DANVA; CGI-I;	SRS; YBOCS; RMET; WHOQOL;	United States
Anderson et al., 1984	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	40	CPRS; CGI-S; CRS; CGI-I;		United States
Anderson et al., 1989	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	45	CPRS; CGI-S; CRS; CGI-I;		United States
Andrews et al., 2013	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	58	AOQ; GAQ; SCPQ; SCAS; WFT;		Australia

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Anninos et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	10	Ad hoc scale;		Greece
Arnold et al., 2006	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	16	ABC;	ABC; RBS; CGI-I; CGI-S; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Arnold et al., 2012	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	20	OACIS;	OARS-4; ABC; SRS; RBS; TSA; EVT; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Asadabadi et al., 2013	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
August et al., 1987	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	10	RLRS; CRS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Baghdadli et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	14	DANVA;	HRQOL;	France
Barthelmey et al., 1981	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	21	Ad hoc scale;		France
Barthelmey et al., 1981	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	35	Ad hoc scale;		France
Barthelmey et al., 1981	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	37	Ad hoc scale;		France
Bass et al., 2009	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	34	SRS; SP;		United States
Beaumont et al., 2008	Educational	RCT parallel group	49	SSQ; ERSSQ; JMT; DibT; PEFE; PEPC;		Australia
Beaumont et al., 2015	Educational	Non-randomized trial	69	ERSSQ; SSQ; SCAS; CAPES-DD; JMT; DibT;		Australia
Beeghly et al., 1987	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	7	RLRS; CRS; PPVT; SICD; TACL; EOWVT; TOLD;		United States
Begeer et al., 2011	Educational	RCT parallel group	36	ToM; LEAS-C; CSBQ; IECA;		Netherlands
Begeer et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	97	ToM; ToM-A; LEAS-C; SSQ;	SRS;	Netherlands
Beisler et al., 1986	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	6	PPVT; SICD; TACL; EOPVT; TOLD; MILI;		United States
Belsito et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	28	ABC; VABS; ADOS; CARS; AUBC;		United States
Bent et al., 2011	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	25	ABC;	PPVT; EVT; SRS; ABC; BASC; CGI-I;	United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Bent et al., 2014	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	57	ABC;	ABC; SRS; CGI-I;	United States
Bernard-Opitz et al., 2004	Educational	Non-randomized trial	8	SPT; ADOS;		Singapore
Bertoglio et al., 2010	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	30	CGI-I;	PIA-CV; PPVT; ABC; CBCL; MCDI; SBIS; CARS;	United States
Bettison, 1996	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	80	ABC; DBC; PPVT; Leiter; SSQ (3); SP (2);		Australia
Birnbrauer et al., 1993	Educational	Non-randomized trial	14	BSID; SBIS; Leiter; PPVT; WPPSI; WISC; VABS; RDLS; REELS; PIC; Ad hoc scale;		Australia
Bolman et al., 1999	Nutraceutical	Non-randomized trial	8	CPRS; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Borgi et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	26	VABS; TOL;		Italy
Bouvard et al., 1995	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	10	CPRS; BSE; CRS;		France
Boyd et al., 2014	Educational	Non-randomized trial	198	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Buchsbaum et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	6		YBOCS; HAM-A; HAM-D; CGI-I;	United States
Buday, 1995	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	10	Ad hoc scales;		United States
Buitelaar et al., 1990	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	14	ABC; Ad hoc scale;		Netherlands
Buitelaar et al., 1992	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	14	Ad hoc scale;		Netherlands
Buitelaar et al., 1996	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	47	ABC; CGI-S; Ad hoc scale;		Netherlands
Campbell et al., 1982	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	33	CRS; CPRS; CGI-S; TBRs;		United States
Campbell et al., 1988	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	28	CPRS; CGI-I; TSRS; CRS;		United States
Campbell et al., 1990	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	18	CPRS; CGI; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Campbell et al., 1993	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	41	CRS; CPRS; CGI-S; NGI; Ad hoc scales;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Carey et al., 2002	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	8	ABC;		United States
Carminati et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	13	ABC; CGI-S; CGI-I; BPI;		Switzerland
Casenhiser et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	51	PLS; CASL; Ad hoc scales;		Canada
Chalfant et al., 2007	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	47	RCMAS; SCAS; CATS; SDQ;		Australia
Chan et al., 2009	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	32	Ad hoc scale;		Hong Kong S.A.R. of China
Chan et al., 2012	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	24	ATEC;		Hong Kong S.A.R. of China
Chan et al., 2013	Miscellaneous	RCT head to head	40	ATEC; Ad hoc scale;		Hong Kong S.A.R. of China
Chez et al., 2000	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	25	CARS;		United States
Chez et al., 2002	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	31	CGI-C; EOPVT; ROPVT; CARS; GARS;		United States
Chez et al., 2003	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	43	CARS; EOPVT; ROPVT;		United States
Chugani et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	142	ADOS;	VABS; ABC; RBS; SPS; Leiter; YBOCS;	United States
Coben et al., 2007	Miscellaneous	Non-randomized trial	49	ATEC; GADS; BRIEF; D-KEF; NEPSY; EOPVT; IVA; PIC;		United States
Coggins et al., 1988	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	5	DP; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Cohen et al., 1980	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	10	TSRS;		United States
Cohen et al., 2006	Educational	Non-randomized trial	37	BSID; WPPSI;	MPPPT; RDLS; VABS;	United States
Coniglio et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	57	CARS; GARS; PLS;		United States
Corbett et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	12	ADOS; MN-PARS; CSBS;		United States
Corbett et al., 2008	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	11	PPVT; EOWVT;		United States
Corbett et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	30	NEPSY;	SRS; ABAS; PIP;	United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Cortesi et al., 2012	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	134		CSHQ; Sleep diary;	Italy
Dadds et al., 2014	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	38	FOS-ASD; SSRS; SRS; UNSW;		Australia
Danfors et al., 2005	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	12	CARS;		Sweden
Dawson et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	45	MSEL; VABS;	ADOS; MSEL; VABS; RBS;	United States
Dawson et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	29	ADI; ADOS; MSEL; PDDBI; VABS;		United States
de Vries et al., 2015	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	90	BRIEF; CSBQ; DBDRS-ADHD; Peds QL;		Netherlands
D'Elia et al., 2014	Educational	Non-randomized trial	30	ADOS; MCDI; VABS; CBCL;		Italy
DeRosier et al., 2011	Educational	RCT head to head	52	SRS; SDQ; SSES; ALQ; (3);		United States
Dollfus et al., 1992	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	18	CPRS; BSE; CRS;		France
Dolske et al., 1993	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	18	RLRS;		United States
Domes et al., 2014	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	14		MDMQ;	Germany
Drahota et al., 2011	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	40	VABS; PCIQ;		United States
Duker et al., 1991	Pharmacological	Non-randomized trial	22	Ad hoc scale;		Netherlands
Dunn-Geier et al., 2000	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	95	PLS;	CARS; AUBC;	Canada
Edelson, Arin, et al., 1999	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	19	ABC; CRS;		United States
Edelson, Edelson, et al., 1999	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	12	CRS;		United States
Eikeseth et al., 2002	Educational	Non-randomized trial	25	WISC; WPPSI; VABS; RDLs;		Norway
Eikeseth et al., 2007	Educational	Non-randomized trial	25	WPPSI; VABS; TRF;		Norway
Ekman et al., 1989	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	20	ABC; RLRS; Ad hoc scale; GMDS;		Sweden

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Elder et al., 2006	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	15	CARS;	ECO; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Enticott et al., 2014	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	30	RAADS; AQ; IRI; RMET; AMT;		Australia
Escalona et al., 2001	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	20	CRS; Sleep diary; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Fahmy et al., 2013	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	30	CARS;		Egypt
Fankhauser et al., 1992	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	9	CGI-S; CGI-I; CGI-E; RLRS; CRS;		United States
Fazlıoğlu et al., 2008	Educational	RCT parallel group	30	SEF;		Turkey
Feldman et al., 1999	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	24	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Fernell et al., 2011	Educational	Non-randomized trial	198	VABS;	AUBC;	Sweden
Findling et al., 1997	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	10	CPRS; CRS; CGI-S; GOCS;		United States
Fletcher-Watson et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	54	Ad hoc scale;	MCDI; CSBS;	United Kingdom
Flores et al., 2014	Educational	RCT head to head	13	LFL-MT;		United States
Frankel et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	68	LS; PHS; QPQ; SSRS; PEI;		United States
Freitag et al., 2016	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	209	SRS;	SRS; SDQ; CBCL;	Germany
Frye et al., 2016	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	48	CELF; PLS;	OACIS; VABS; ABC; SRS; BASC; AIM; ASQ;	United States
Fujii et al., 2013	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	12	ADIS;		United States
Gabriels et al., 2015	Miscellaneous	RCT head to head	116	ABC;	ABC; SRS; PPVT; VABS; BOT; SIPT;	United States
Gantman et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	17	SRS; SSRS; SELSA;	EQ; QSQ; SSI; TASSK;	United States
Garstang et al., 2006	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	7	Sleep diary;		United Kingdom
Gattino et al., 2011	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	24	CARS;		Brazil
Geier et al., 2011	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	27	CARS; ATEC; Ad hoc scale;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Geretsegger et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	15	ADOS; SRS;	Ad hoc scale;	Austria
Gev et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	67	ERT; EVT (2);		Israel
Ghaleiha et al., 2013	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
Ghaleiha et al., 2014	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
Ghaleiha et al., 2015	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
Ghaleiha et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	46	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
Ghalichi et al., 2016	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	76	GARS;		Iran
Ghanizadeh et al., 2013	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	31	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
Ghanizadeh et al., 2014	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	59	ABC;	ABC; CGI-I;	Iran
Ahmad Ghanizadeh et al., 2015	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	34	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
Ghasemtabar et al., 2015	Miscellaneous	Non-randomized trial	27	SSRS;		Iran
Gillberg et al., 1986	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	4	AUBC;		Sweden
Golan et al., 2006	Miscellaneous	Non-randomized trial	26	CAM-C; RMET; RMV; RMF;		United Kingdom
Golan et al., 2006	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	41	CAM-C; RMET; RMV; RMF;		United Kingdom
Golan et al., 2010	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	38	Ad hoc scales;		United Kingdom
Goods et al., 2013	Educational	RCT head to head	11	SPA; ESCS; Class Obs; RDLS;		United States
Gordon et al., 1992	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	14	CPRS; CGI-I; GOCS; GOCAS; CPRS (2);		United States
Gordon et al., 1993	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	12	CPRS; CGI-E; GOCAS; GOCS; CPRS (2);		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Gordon et al., 1993	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	12	CPRS; CGI-E; GOCAS; GOCS; CPRS (2);		United States
Gordon et al., 2011	Educational	RCT parallel group	83	COSMIC;		United Kingdom
Gordon et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	48	Ad hoc scale;	RSES; SDQ;	United Kingdom
Granpeesheh et al., 2010	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	29	ADOS; SRS;	VABS; PPVT; BRIEF; VMI; ABC; CGI-S; RBS; PSI; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Green et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	152	ADOS;	PLS; MCDI; CSBS; VABS; Ad hoc scale;	United Kingdom
Gringras et al., 2014	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	67		Sleep diary; CSDI; ABC; SBQ;	United Kingdom
Groden et al., 1987	Pharmacological	Non-randomized trial	8	WISC; SBIS; CIIS; AAMD; ADP; RLRS; BSSS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Guastella et al., 2010	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	15	RMET;		Australia
Guastella et al., 2015	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	50	CGI-I; SRS;	DBC; RBS; DANVA; RMET;	Australia
Gulsrud et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	38	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Handen et al., 2000	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	12	CRS; ICRS; ABC; CARS;		United States
Handen et al., 2005	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	8	ABC; CGI-S; CGI-I; CGI-E; GARS;		United States
Handen et al., 2009	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	111		ABC; CGI-I;	United States
Handen et al., 2011	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	34	D-KEF; EOWVT; CVL; TMT;		United States
Handen et al., 2015	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	64	HSQ; SNAP-IV;	CGI-I; ABC; SSQ (2);	United States
Hardan et al., 2012	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	29	ABC;	ABC; RBS; SRS; CGI-I; CGI-S;	United States
Hardan et al., 2015	Educational	RCT head to head	47	Ad hoc scale;	VABS; SRS; MCDI; CGI-S; CGI-I; PLS;	United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Harfterkamp et al., 2012	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	97	ADHD;	CGI-I; CRS;	Netherlands
Hasanzadeh et al., 2012	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	47	ABC;		Iran
Hayward et al., 2009	Educational	Non-randomized trial	44	VABS; RDLS; MPR; BSID; WPPSI;		United Kingdom
Hellings et al., 2005	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	30	ABC;	CGI; OAS;	United States
Hendren et al., 2016	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	50	CGI-I;	ABC; SRS;	United States
Hesselmark et al., 2014	Psychotherapy	RCT head to head	68	QOLI; RSES;	SOC; BDI; ASRS; CGI-I; CGI-S;	Sweden
Hildebrandt et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	43	SANS;		Germany
Hochhauser et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	61	FFNS; CT;		Israel
Hollander et al., 2003	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	15	Ad hoc scale; YBOCS;		United States
Hollander et al., 2005	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	39	YBOCS;	CGI-I; OAS; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Hollander, Soorya, et al., 2006	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	13	YBOCS;		United States
Hollander, Wasserman, et al., 2006	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	11	CGI-I;	YBOCS; OAS;	United States
Hollander et al., 2007	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	15	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Hollander et al., 2010	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	27	ABC; CGI-I;	OAS; YBOCS; VABS; YMRS;	United States
Hollander et al., 2012	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	34	YBOCS; CGI-I;	ABC; HAM-D;	United States
Honomichl et al., 2002	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	14	CSHQ; Sleep diary;		United States
Hopkins et al., 2011	Educational	RCT parallel group	49	UF; SSRS; BFR; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Howard et al., 2005	Psychotherapy	Non-randomized trial	61	BSID; WPPSI; DP; SBIS; DAS; DAYC; PEP; MSEL; RDLS; PPVT; EVT; VABS; MPR;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Howlin et al., 2007	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	84	Ad hoc scale;	EOWVT; BPVS; ADOS;	United Kingdom
Hyman et al., 2016	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	14	Sleep diary; CRS; RLRS;		United States
Ichikawa et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	11	SDQ;	IRS;	Japan
Ichikawa et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	92	ABC;	CGI-I; CGI-S; YBOCS; CGAS;	Japan
Ingersoll, 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	21	MIS; UIA;		United States
Ingersoll, 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	27	ESCS;	BSID; MIS; UIA;	United States
Ingersoll et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	19	MESSY; ABC;	UIA; MIS;	United States
Isong et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	69	VARs;	VBRS;	United States
Iwanaga et al., 2014	Educational	Non-randomized trial	20	J-MAP;		Japan
Jarusiewicz, 2002	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	24	ATEC; Ad hoc scale		United States
Jaselskis et al., 1992	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	8	CRS; HSS; ABC; ACTeRs; CPRS; CGAS; CGI-I; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Jocelyn et al., 1998	Educational	RCT parallel group	35	ABC; EIDP;		Canada
Johnson et al., 2010	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	23	CBCL; MSEL; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Kaale et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	61	ESCS; PTCP;		Norway
Kalyva et al., 2005	Educational	Non-randomized trial	5	Ad hoc scales;		United Kingdom
Kamps et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	94	CELF; VABS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Kaplan et al., 1998	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	18	ABC; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Kasari et al., 2006	Educational	RCT parallel group	58	ESCS; SPA; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Kasari et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	38	Ad hoc scale;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Kasari et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	60	SN; POPE;	SN;	United States
Kasari, Kaiser, et al., 2014	Educational	RCT SMART design	61	Ad hoc scale;	Ad hoc scale;	United States
Kasari, Lawton, et al., 2014	Educational	RCT head to head	107	Ad hoc scale;	ESCS; SPA;	United States
Kasari et al., 2015	Educational	RCT head to head	83	Ad hoc scale;	PSI; RDLS; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Kasari et al., 2016	Educational	RCT head to head	133	FS;	POPE; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Keehn et al., 2013	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	22	ADIS;	SCAS;	United States
Kent et al., 2013	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	92	ABC;	ABC; CGI-S; YBOCS;	United States
Kenworthy et al., 2014	Educational	RCT head to head	60	WASI; BRIEF; SRS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Kern et al., 2001	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	37	VABS; ABC;		United States
Kern et al., 2002	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	19	ABC; MCDI;		United States
Kern et al., 2013	Educational	RCT crossover	10	CARS; ATEC; M-CHAT; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Khorshid et al., 2006	Miscellaneous	RCT head to head	14	ATEC;		United States
Kim et al., 2008	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	10	ESCS; PDDBI; Ad hoc scale;		Korea, Republic of
King et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	39	CGI-I; CGI-S; CGI-E; ABC;		United States
King et al., 2009	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	149	CGI-I;	ABC; RBS; YBOCS; Ad hoc scale;	United States
Klaiman et al., 2013	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	46	CGI-I;	SRS; ABC; VABS; PLS;	United States
Knivsberg et al., 2002	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	20	DIPAB; Leiter; ITPA; MABC; RDLS;		Norway
Koch et al., 2015	Miscellaneous	Non-randomized trial	31	HSI; FBT; EES; Ad hoc scale;		Germany
Koehne et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	51	MET;	IRI; Ad hoc scales;	Germany
Koenig et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	41	CGI-I;	SCI; CGI-S;	United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Kok et al., 2002	Educational	Non-randomized trial	8	Ad hoc scale;		Singapore
Kolmen et al., 1995	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	13	CGI-I; CRS; CPRS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Kolmen et al., 1997	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	11	CGI-I; CRS; CPRS; DP; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Koning et al., 2013	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	15	VABS; SRS; CASP; PIM; ADOS; Ad hoc scale;		Canada
Kosaka et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	60	CGI-S; CGI-I; IRSA;	ABC; STAI; SDS; TAS;	Japan
Kouijzer et al., 2013	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	38	SCQ; CGI-I; TMT; TOL; ST; TOSSA; WISC;		Netherlands
Kretzmann et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	24	POPE;		United States
Kroeger et al., 2007	Educational	Non-randomized trial	25	SIOC; ABLLS;		United States
Kuriyama et al., 2002	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	8	WISC; VSMS;		Japan
Lamberti et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	44	ADHD; CGI-I;	CRS; CGI-S; CGAS;	Italy
Landa et al., 2011	Educational	RCT head to head	48	CSBS; Ad hoc scale;	MSEL;	United States
Langdon et al., 2016	Psychotherapy	RCT crossover	45	HAM-A;	SPIN; LSAS; SEF-Q; SIAS; FQ; HAM-D; EQ-5D;	United Kingdom
Laugeson et al., 2009	Educational	RCT parallel group	33	SSRS; QPQ; TASSK; FQS;		United States
Laugeson et al., 2014	Educational	Non-randomized trial	73	SRS; SSRS; QPQ; TASSK; FQS; PHS; SAS (2);		United States
Laugeson et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	17	SRS; SSRS; QSQ; TASSK; EQ;		United States
Lawton et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	16	ESCS; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Layton, 1988	Educational	RCT head to head	60	Ad hoc scales;		United States
Leboyer et al., 1992	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	4	CGI-S; CGI-I; BSE; Ad hoc scale;		France

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
LeGoff, 2004	Educational	Non-randomized trial	47	GARS; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Lelord et al., 1981	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	21	BSE; Ad hoc scale;		France
Lemonnier et al., 2012	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	54	CARS;	CGI-S; CGI-I; CGI-E; ADOS;	France
Lerna et al., 2012	Educational	Non-randomized trial	18	ADOS; GMDS; VABS; Ad hoc scale;		Italy
Lerna et al., 2014	Educational	Non-randomized trial	14	ADOS; GMDS; VABS; Ad hoc scale;		Italy
Lerner et al., 2012	Educational	RCT head to head	13	SCQ; SRS; SSRS; SIOC; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Levine et al., 1997	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	9	CARS; CRS; CGI;		Israel
Levy et al., 2003	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	61	CSBS; GBRs; RLRS;		United States
Loebel et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	148	ABC;	ABC; CGI-S; CGI-I; YBOCS;	United States
Lopata et al., 2008	Educational	RCT head to head	54	BASC; DANVA; Ad hoc scale;	ASC; SRS; CASL;	United States
Lopata et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	35	SRS; BASC; DANVA; CASL;		United States
Lopata et al., 2015	Educational	RCT head to head	47	DANVA; CASL; ASC; SRS; BASC;		United States
Lopata et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	36	CAM-C; ERDS;	ASC; BASC; SEE; SRS;	United States
Lovaas, 1987	Educational	Non-randomized trial	38	BSID; WISC; SBIS; Leiter; MPPPT; PPVT; WPPSI; CIIS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Luby et al., 2006	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	23	GARS; CARS;	VABS; CBCL; PLS;	United States
Maddox et al., 2016	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	25	SRS; LQ;		United States
Magiati et al., 2007	Educational	Non-randomized trial	44	MPR; VABS; EOWVT; SPT; BSID; WPPSI; BPVS;		United Kingdom
Malone et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	12	CGI-I; CGI-S;	CPRS;	United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Mandell et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	119	DAS;		United States
Mankad et al., 2015	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	38	PDDBI; BASC;	VABS; CGI-I; PLS;	Canada
Marcus et al., 2009	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	178	ABC;	ABC; CGI-I; YBOCS; Peds QL; CGSQ;	United States
Marshall et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	37	SDQ; SRS; EQ-5D; HUI; Ad hoc scales;		United Kingdom
Martineau et al., 1985	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	60	BSE;		France
McConachie et al., 2014	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	32	CGI-I; ADIS; SCAS; Ad hoc scale;		United Kingdom
McCracken et al., 2002	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	101	ABC; CGI-I;	ABC;	United States
McDougle et al., 1996	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	17	CGI-S; RLRS; RTB; VAS;		United States
McDougle et al., 1996	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	30	YBOCS; VABS; BAS (3); CGI-I; RLRS;		United States
McDougle et al., 1998	Pharmacological	Non-randomized trial	31	YBOCS; SIB-Q; RLRS; CGI-I;		United States
McGillivray et al., 2014	Psychotherapy	Non-randomized trial	42	DASS; ATQ; ASSQ;		Australia
McKeel et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	27	PDA;		United States
McNally Keehn et al., 2013	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	22	ADIS;	SCAS;	United States
McVey et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	47	SSIS; SRS; TASSK; QSQ; EQ; SELSA;	LSAS; SPIN;	United States
Minshawi et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	66	SRS;	SRS; VABS; ABC; CGI-I; TSSA;	United States
Miral et al., 2008	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	28	RLRS; CGI-S; CGI-I; TDPRS;	ABC;	Turkey
Miyajima et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	14	BACS; WCST; CPT; SCoRS; LASMI; GSE;		Japan
Mohammadi et al., 2013	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;	CGI-I;	Iran
Mohammadzaheri et al., 2014	Educational	RCT head to head	30	Ad hoc scale; CCC;		Iran

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Molloy et al., 2002	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	42	CARS; GARS; ABC; AUBC; DTVP; MPR; MSEL; PPVT;		United States
Morgan et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	28	SPS; PHQ;		United States
Mudford et al., 2000	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	16	ABC; N-CBREF; VABS; RDLS; Leiter; Ad hoc scale;		United Kingdom
Munasinghe et al., 2010	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	43	GBRS; LDS;		Australia
Munesue et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	29	CARS;	ABC; CGI-I; GAF; IRSA; Ad hoc scale;	Japan
Nagaraj et al., 2006	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	39	CARS; CGAS; VABS; Ad hoc scale;		India
Navarro et al., 2015	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	12	CRS; ABC; CBCL; SCQ;		United States
Nazni et al., 2008	Nutraceutical	Non-randomized trial	20	Ad hoc scale;		India
Niederhofer et al., 2003	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	12	ABC; CPRS; CGI-E;		Austria
Niederhofer, 2004	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	14	ABC; CPRS; CGAS; CGI-E;		Italy
Nikoo et al., 2015	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;	ABC;	Iran
Owen et al., 2009	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	98	ABC;	ABC; CGI-I; YBOCS; CGSQ; Peds QL;	United States
Owens et al., 2008	Educational	RCT parallel group	47	VABS; GARS; Ad hoc scale;		United Kingdom
Owley et al., 1999	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	20	ADOS;	CGI-S; VABS; ABC; GARS; DTVP; MSEL; PPVT;	United States
Owley et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	56	ADOS;	GARS; ABC; MSEL; PPVT; VABS; DTVP; CGI-S;	United States
Ozonoff et al., 1998	Educational	Non-randomized trial	22	PEP;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Pahnke et al., 2014	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	28	SDQ; BYI; SSS; Ad hoc scale;		Sweden
Pajareya et al., 2011	Educational	RCT parallel group	31	FEAS;	FEDQ; CARS;	Thailand
Panerai et al., 2009	Educational	Non-randomized trial	34	PEP; VABS;		Italy
Pearson et al., 2013	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	24	CRS;	ACTeRs; VAS; ABC; CGI-S; CGI-I; SCQ; SNAP-IV;	United States
Peters-Scheffer et al., 2010	Educational	Non-randomized trial	34	BSID; VABS; CBCL; PDD-MRS;		Netherlands
Peters-Scheffer et al., 2013	Educational	Non-randomized trial	40	ADOS; CARS; MSEL; VSEEC; VABS; ESCS; CBCL; BFRS;		Netherlands
Pfeiffer et al., 2011	Miscellaneous	RCT head to head	37	VABS; GAS;	CTS; SRS; SPM;	United States
Pineda et al., 2008	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	19	TOVA; ATEC;		United States
Piravej et al., 2009	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	60	CRS; Sleep diary;		Thailand
Porges et al., 2014	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	114	SICS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Posey et al., 2004	Pharmacological	Non-randomized trial	20	CGI-I; ABC; SRS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Poslawsky et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	77	EAS;	PEQ; PDH; ESCS; Ad hoc scale;	Netherlands
Pusponegoro et al., 2015	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	50	PDDBI;		Indonesia
Quintana et al., 1995	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	10	ABC; CRS;		United States
Quirnbach et al., 2009	Educational	RCT head to head	45	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Ratcliffe et al., 2014	Educational	Non-randomized trial	217	EDQ; SSIS; SDQ;		Australia
Ratliff-Schaub et al., 2005	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	15	ATEC;	ATEC;	United States
Realmuto et al., 1986	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	12	Ad hoc scale;		United States
J. A. Reaven et al., 2009	Psychotherapy	Non-randomized trial	31	SCARED;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Reaven et al., 2012	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	50	ADIS; CGI-I;		United States
Reed et al., 2007	Educational	Non-randomized trial	27	GARS; PEP; VABS; BAS (2);		United Kingdom
Reitzel et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	15	DBC; VABS; Ad hoc scale;		Canada
Remington et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	36	ABC; CARS;		Canada
Remington et al., 2007	Educational	Non-randomized trial	44	RDLS; VABS; N-CBRF; DBC; ESCS; ASQ (2);		United Kingdom
Research Units on Pediatric Psychopharmacology Autism, 2005	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	66	ABC;	CGI-I;	United States
Rezaei et al., 2010	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	40	ABC;		Iran
Rice et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	31	NEPSY; SRS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Rickards et al., 2007	Educational	RCT parallel group	59	BSID; BSQ; PBCL; VABS;		Australia
Rimland et al., 1995	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	16	ABC; FAPC; HSQ (3); Ad hoc scale;		United States
Roberts et al., 2001	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	64	ADOS; PLS; AUBC; Ad hoc scale;		Canada
Roberts et al., 2011	Educational	RCT parallel group	56	VABS; RDLS; DBC; PP;		Australia
Rodgers et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	60	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Roeyers, 1996	Educational	RCT parallel group	85	SBRS; Ad hoc scales;		Belgium
Rogers et al., 2006	Educational	RCT head to head	10	ADOS; MCDI; MSEL; VABS;		United States
Rossignol et al., 2009	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	56	ABC; CGI; ATEC;		Australia
Russell et al., 2013	Psychotherapy	RCT head to head	40	YBOCS;	CGI-I; CGI-S;	United Kingdom
Saad et al., 2015	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	92	CARS; GBRs;		Egypt

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Sallows et al., 2005	Psychotherapy	RCT head to head	23	WPPSI; WISC; CELF; BSID; Leiter; MPR; RDLS; ADI; PIC; CBCL; VABS; WJ;		United States
Sampanthavivat et al., 2012	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	58	ATEC; CGI-S; CGI-I;		Thailand
Sandler et al., 1999	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	52	VABS; AUBC; CGI-S;		United States
Santomauro et al., 2016	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	20	BDI; DASS; ERQ		Australia
Scahill et al., 2015	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	62	ABC;	CGI-I; ADHD; DAS; NEPSY;	United States
Scarpa et al., 2011	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	11	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Schaaf et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	31	GAS;	PEDI; PDDBI; VABS;	United States
Schohl et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	58	TASSK; QSQ; SIAS; FQS; SRS; SSRS;		United States
Schreibman et al., 2014	Educational	RCT head to head	39	MSEL; EOWVT; MCDI; VABS;		United States
Schwartzberg et al., 2013	Educational	RCT head to head	30	ASSP; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Schwartzberg et al., 2016	Educational	RCT head to head	29	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Scifo et al., 1991	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	11	BSE; CARS;		Italy
Shea et al., 2004	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	77	ABC;	N-CBRF; VAS; CGI-I;	Canada
Sheinkopf et al., 1998	Educational	Non-randomized trial	22	BSID; MPR; WPPSI; CIIS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Sherman et al., 1989	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	15	RLRS; WISC; SBIS; AAMD; Ad hoc scale;		Canada
Silva et al., 2007	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	15	SP; AUBC; VABS;		United States
Silva et al., 2009	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	46	AUBC; PDDBI; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Silver et al., 2001	Educational	RCT parallel group	22	FEP; SS; ERC;		United Kingdom

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Singh et al., 2014	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	36	ABC; SRS; CGI-S; CGI-I;		United States
Smith et al., 1985	Miscellaneous	RCT crossover	14	Ad hoc scales;		United States
Smith et al., 1997	Educational	Non-randomized trial	21	VABS; RDLS; MPR; Ad hoc scale;		Norway
Smith et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	26	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Smith et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	22	HSQ; SNAP-IV;	CGI-I; ABC; SSQ (2);	United States
Sofronoff et al., 2005	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	71	JMT; SCAS; SWQ;		Australia
Sofronoff et al., 2007	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	45	DibT; WmmA; Ad hoc scales;		Australia
Solomon et al., 2004	Educational	RCT parallel group	18	DANVA; SS; TOPS; CDI;		United States
Solomon et al., 2008	Educational	RCT parallel group	19	ECBI; BASC; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Solomon et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	121	ADOS; SCQ; CBRS; FEAS; MCDI; MSEL;		United States
Soorya et al., 2015	Educational	RCT head to head	67	SRS; GEM; CCC; DANVA; SS; RMET; BASC;		United States
Spek et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	41	SCL-90; RRQ; GMS; WAIS;		Netherlands
Spjut Jansson et al., 2016	Educational	Non-randomized trial	71	VABS; CGAS;		Sweden
Sponheim et al., 2002	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	6	ABC; VAS;		Norway
Srinivasan et al., 2015	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	33	BOT; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Srinivasan et al., 2016	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	33	JTAT; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Stern et al., 1990	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	19	RLRS; RDLS; CRS; TOLD; Leiter; MPR; BAS (2); VABS; TOAL;		Australia

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Storch et al., 2013	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	45	PARS; ADIS; CGI-S; CGI-I; SRS;	MASC; CIS-P; CBCL; SRS; RCMAS;	United States
Storch et al., 2015	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	31	PARS; ADIS; CGI-S; CGI-I; CBCL; CIS-P; MASC; RCMAS; SRS;		United States
Strain et al., 2011	Educational	RCT head to head	294	CARS; MSEL; PLS; SSRS; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Strickland et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	22	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Sugie et al., 2005	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	18	BAS; CGI-I;		Japan
Sun et al., 2016	Nutraceutical	Non-randomized trial	66	ABC; CARS; ATEC; PEP;		China
Sung et al., 2011	Psychotherapy	RCT head to head	70	SCAS; CGI-S;		Singapore
Tanaka et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	79	Ad hoc scale;		Canada
Thomeer et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	34	ASC; SRS; BASC; SKA; DANVA; CASL;	ASC; SRS; BASC; SKA; DANVA; CASL;	United States
Thomeer et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	43	CAM-C; ERDS;	SRS; BASC;	United States
Thomeer et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	57	ASC; SRS; BASC; CASL;	ASC; SRS; BASC;	United States
Thompson et al., 2014	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	21	VSEEC;	SRS; MCDI; MTDA;	Australia
Tolbert et al., 1993	Nutraceutical	RCT crossover	15	RLRS;		United States
Troost et al., 2005	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	24	ABC; CGI-I;		Netherlands
Tsang et al., 2007	Educational	Non-randomized trial	34	PEP; MPR; HKBABS;		Hong Kong S.A.R. of China
Unis et al., 2002	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	85	ABC; ADOS; EOWVT; Ad hoc scale;		United States
Urbano et al., 2014	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	20	SRS;	ABC;	United States
Urbano et al., 2015	Pharmacological	RCT head to head	20	ABC; SRS; ACS;		United States
Van Bourgondien et al., 2003	Educational	Non-randomized trial	32	ERS; PEP; VABS; ABI;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Van Hecke et al., 2015	Educational	RCT parallel group	57		SRS; TASSK; QSQ;	United States
van Steensel et al., 2014	Psychotherapy	Non-randomized trial	49	ADIS;	EQ-5D;	Netherlands
van Steensel et al., 2015	Psychotherapy	Non-randomized trial	79	ADIS; SCARED;	EQ-5D; CSBQ; CBCL;	Netherlands
Veenstra-VanderWeele et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	150	ABC;	CGI-I; CGI-S; ABC; VABS; VAS; ADHD; CSHQ; SPS (2);	United States
Voigt et al., 2014	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	48	CGI-I;	ABC; BASC; CDI;	United States
Wasserman et al., 2006	Pharmacological	RCT parallel group	20	ABC; CGI-I;	YBOCS; CRS;	United States
Watanabe et al., 2015	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	9	ADOS; CARS;	AQ; SRS; RBS; STAI; CESD; WHOQOL; CGI-E; GAF; CGI-S;	Japan
Wehman et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	40	SIS;		United States
Welterlin et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	20	MSEL; SIB;		United States
Wetherby et al., 2014	Educational	RCT head to head	82	CSBS; ADOS; VABS; MSEL;		United States
White et al., 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	30	SRS; CASI;	PARS; CGI-I; CGAS;	United States
White et al., 2016	Educational	RCT head to head	8	CGI-I; BDEFS; SACQ;		United States
Whiteley et al., 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	59	ADOS; GARS; VABS; ADHD;		Denmark
Willemsen-Swinkels et al., 1995	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	24	ABC; CGI-S; Ad hoc scale;		Netherlands
Willemsen-Swinkels et al., 1995	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	17	ABC; Ad hoc scales;		Netherlands
Willemsen-Swinkels et al., 1996	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	20	MESSY; ABC; CGI-I; Ad hoc scales;		Netherlands
Williams et al., 2012	Educational	RCT parallel group	55	NEPSY; Ad hoc scales;		Australia

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Wink et al., 2014	Pharmacological	Non-randomized trial	142		CGI-I;	United States
Wink et al., 2016	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	25	CGI-I;	CGI-S; ABC; SRS; VABS;	United States
Wong et al., 2007	Educational	RCT head to head	41	Ad hoc scale;		United States
Wong, W.-X. Chen, et al., 2010	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	55	WeeFIM; PED; Leiter; CGI-I;	ABC; RLRS; RDLS; Ad hoc scale;	Hong Kong S.A.R. of China
Wong & Q. K. Kwan, 2010	Educational	RCT parallel group	17	ADOS;	RLRS; SPT;	Hong Kong S.A.R. of China
Wong et al., 2010	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	50	GMDS; RLRS; RDLS; SPT; WeeFIM;		Hong Kong S.A.R. of China
Wong, 2013	Educational	RCT parallel group	33	ESCS; SPA; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Woo et al., 2013	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	28	CARS; EOWVT; Leiter;		United States
Woo et al., 2015	Miscellaneous	RCT parallel group	50	Leiter; SP; RDLS; ADOS;		United States
Wood et al., 2009	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	40	CGI-I;	ADIS; MASC;	United States
Wood et al., 2015	Psychotherapy	RCT parallel group	33	CGI-I; ADIS; MASC; PARS; RCADS; SRS; MASS;		United States
Wright et al., 2011	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	17	Sleep diary;	SDQ (2); DBC; GHQ;	United Kingdom
Wu et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	20	HSQ (2); Ad hoc scale;		Taiwan
Yarbrough et al., 1987	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	20	Ad hoc scales;		United States
Yatawara et al., 2016	Pharmacological	RCT crossover	31	SRS; RBS;	ADOS; DBC; CGI-I; Ad hoc scale;	Australia
Yoder et al., 2006	Educational	RCT head to head	36	DPA; Ad hoc scales;		United States
Yoo et al., 2014	Educational	RCT parallel group	47	ADOS; VABS; TASSK; QPQ; SSRS; SCQ; SRS; ASDS;	CDI (2); STAI; CBCL;	Korea, Republic of
Young et al., 2016	Educational	RCT parallel group	255	VABS; BDI (2); EOPVT; ROPVT; ASIEP; SSRS; Ad hoc scale;		United States

Reference	Intervention	Design	Total sample	Primary outcome scales	Secondary outcome scales	Study location
Yui et al., 2012	Nutraceutical	RCT parallel group	13	SRS; ABC;		Japan
Zachor et al., 2007	Educational	Non-randomized trial	39	ADOS; SBIS; BSID;		Israel
Zachor et al., 2010	Educational	Non-randomized trial	78	ADOS; VABS; MSEL;		Israel
Zhang et al., 2012	Miscellaneous	Non-randomized trial	76	CARS; ABC; ADQ; PSQI; Ad hoc scale;		China

Table s2. List of the tools used for outcome assessment in the retrieved studies ordered by frequency of use. The total number of non ad-hoc tools was 328.

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
ABC	ABERRANT BEHAVIOUR CHECKLIST	validated	97
CGI-I	CLINICAL GLOBAL IMPRESSION - IMPROVEMENT	validated	79
VABS	VINELAND ADAPTIVE BEHAVIOR SCALES	validated	63
SRS	SOCIAL RESPONSIVENESS SCALE	validated	56
CGI-S	CLINICAL GLOBAL IMPRESSION - SEVERITY	validated	40
CARS	CHILDHOOD AUTISM RATING SCALE	validated	34
ADOS	AUTISM DIAGNOSTIC OBSERVATION SCHEDULE	validated	32
CRS	CONNERS' RATING SCALE	validated	28
YBOC S	YALE-BROWN OBSESSIVE-COMPULSIVE SCALE	validated	19
CPRS	CHILDREN'S PSYCHIATRIC RATING SCALE	validated	19
RLRS	RITVO-FREEMAN REAL LIFE RATING SCALE	validated	18
RDLS	REYNELL DEVELOPMENTAL LANGUAGE SCALES	validated	17
MSEL	MULLEN SCALES OF EARLY LEARNING	validated	16
ATEC	AUTISM TREATMENT EVALUATION CHECKLIST	validated	16
PPVT	PEABODY PICTURE VOCABULARY TEST-THIRD EDITION	validated	14
SSRS	SOCIAL SKILLS RATING SYSTEM	validated	13
BASC	BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR CHILDREN	validated	13
CBCL	CHILD BEHAVIOR CHECKLIST	validated	13
ESCS	EARLY SOCIAL COMMUNICATION SCALES	validated	12
BSID	BAYLEY SCALES OF INFANT AND TODDLER DEVELOPMENT	validated	12
GARS	GILLIAN AUTISM RATING SCALE	validated	12
MCDI	MACARTHUR COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENTAL INVENTORY	validated	11
PLS	PRESCHOOL LANGUAGE SCALE	validated	11
Leiter	LEITER INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE SCALE	validated	11
RBS	REPETITIVE BEHAVIOR SCALE	validated	11
ADIS	ANXIETY DISORDERS INTERVIEW SCHEDULE FOR DSM-IV	validated	11
WPPSI	WECHSLER PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY SCALE OF INTELLIGENCE	validated	10
DANV A	DIAGNOSTIC ANALYSIS OF NONVERBAL ACCURACY	validated	9
MPR	MERRILL-PALMER SCALE OF MENTAL TESTS, REVISED	validated	9

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
AUBC	AUTISM BEHAVIOR CHECKLIST	validated	9
Sleep diary	SLEEP DIARY	cited in literature	9
CGI-E	CLINICAL GLOBAL IMPRESSION - EFFICACY INDEX	validated	9
TASS K	TEST OF ADOLESCENT SOCIAL SKILLS KNOWLEDGE	cited in literature	8
WISC	WECHSLER INTELLIGENCE SCALE FOR CHILDREN-REVISED	validated	8
CGAS	CHILDREN'S GLOBAL ASSESSMENT SCALE	validated	8
EOW VT	EXPRESSIVE ONE WORD VOCABULARY TEST	validated	8
SCAS	SPENCE CHILDREN'S ANXIETY SCALE (PARENT OR TEACHER)	validated	8
PEP	PSYCHOEDUCATIONAL PROFILE	validated	7
SDQ	STRENGTHS AND DIFFICULTIES QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	7
DBC	DEVELOPMENTAL BEHAVIOR CHECKLIST	validated	7
SBIS	STANFORD-BINET INTELLIGENCE SCALE	validated	7
PDDDB I	PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER BEHAVIOR INVENTORY	validated	7
RMET	READING THE MIND IN THE EYES TEST	validated	7
CASL	COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF SPOKEN LANGUAGE	validated	6
CSBS	COMMUNICATION AND SYMBOLIC BEHAVIOR SCALE	validated	6
SCQ	SOCIAL COMMUNICATION QUESTIONNAIRE: CURRENT FORM	validated	6
BSE	BEHAVIORAL SUMMARIZED EVALUATION	validated	6
ASC	ADAPTED SKILLSTREAMING CHECKLIST	validated	5
QSQ	QUALITY OF SOCIALIZATION QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	5
SPA	STRUCTURED PLAY ASSESSMENT	cited in literature	5
NEPS Y	DEVELOPMENTAL NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT	validated	5
ADHD	ATTENTION-DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER RATING SCALE	validated	5
EOPV T	EXPRESSIVE ONE WORD PICTURE VOCABULARY TEST	validated	5
VAS	VISUAL ANALOG SCALE	cited in literature	5
QPQ	QUALITY OF PLAY QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	4
SPT	SYMBOLIC PLAY TEST	validated	4
GMDS	GRIFFITHS MENTAL DEVELOPMENT SCALES	validated	4

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
CAM-C	CAMBRIDGE MINDREADING FACE-VOICE BATTERY	validated	4
CSHQ	CHILDREN'S SLEEP HABITS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	4
BRIEF	BEHAVIOR RATING INVENTORY OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING	validated	4
EQ-5D	EUROQOL-5D	validated	4
PARS	PEDIATRIC ANXIETY RATING SCALE	validated	4
OAS	OVERT AGGRESSION SCALE	validated	4
GOCS	NIMH GLOBAL OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE SCALE	validated	4
CGI	CLINICAL GLOBAL IMPRESSION (UNSPECIFIED)	validated	4
MASC	MULTIDIMENSIONAL ANXIETY SCALE FOR CHILDREN	validated	4
EQ	EMPATHY QUOTIENT	validated	3
FQS	FRIENDSHIP QUALITIES SCALE	validated	3
MIS	MOTOR IMITATION SCALE	validated	3
POPE	PLAYGROUND OBSERVATION OF PEER ENGAGEMENT	validated	3
SS	STRANGE STORIES	cited in literature	3
SSQ	SOCIAL SKILLS QUESTIONNAIRE (PARENT OR TEACHER)	validated	3
UIA	UNSTRUCTURED IMITATION ASSESSMENT	validated	3
CIIS	CATTELL INFANT INTELLIGENCE SCALE	validated	3
DibT	“DYLAN IS BEING TEASED” TEST	cited in literature	3
JMT	“JAMES AND THE MATHS” TEST	cited in literature	3
PSI	PARENT STRESS INDEX	validated	3
STAI	STATE AND TRAIT ANXIETY INVENTORY	validated	3
DAS	DIFFERENTIAL ABILITY SCALES	validated	3
N-CBRF	NISONGER CHILD BEHAVIOR RATING FORM	validated	3
ROPV T	RECEPTIVE ONE WORD PICTURE VOCABULARY TEST	validated	3
CELF	CLINICAL EVALUATION OF LANGUAGE FUNDAMENTALS	validated	3
CSBQ	CHILDREN'S SOCIAL BEHAVIOR QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	3
PIC	PERSONALITY INVENTORY FOR CHILDREN	validated	3
CPRS (2)	COMPREHENSIVE PSYCHOPATHOLOGICAL RATING SCALE	validated	3
DTVP	DEVELOPMENTAL TEST OF VISUAL PERCEPTION	validated	3

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
GOCA S	NIMH GLOBAL OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE & ANXIETY RATING SCALE	cited in literature	3
SNAP- IV	THE SWANSON, NOLAN, AND PELHAM	validated	3
TOLD DP	TEST OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENTAL PROFILE	validated	3
HAM- D	HAMILTON RATING SCALE – DEPRESSION	validated	3
Peds QL	PEDIATRIC QUALITY OF LIFE INVENTORY	validated	3
AQ	AUTISM QUOTIENT	validated	3
EVT	EXPRESSIVE VOCABULARY TEST	validated	3
GBRS	GLOBAL BEHAVIOUR RATING SCALE	cited in literature	3
RCMA S	REVISED CHILDREN’S MANIFEST ANXIETY SCALE	validated	3
SP	SENSORY PROFILE	validated	3
CCC	CHILDREN’S COMMUNICATION CHECKLIST 2	validated	2
ERDS	EMOTION RECOGNITION AND DISPLAY SURVEY	validated	2
ERSS Q	EMOTION REGULATION AND SOCIAL SKILLS QUESTIONNAIRE (PARENT OR TEACHER)	validated	2
FEAS	THE FUNCTIONAL EMOTIONAL ASSESSMENT SCALE	validated	2
LEAS- C	LEVELS OF EMOTIONAL AWARENESS SCALE FOR CHILDREN	validated	2
MPPP T	MERRILL-PALMER PRESCHOOL PERFORMANCE TEST	validated	2
PHS	PIERS-HARRIS SELF-CONCEPT SCALE	validated	2
SELS A	SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LONELINESS SCALE FOR ADULTS	validated	2
SIOC	SOCIAL INTERACTION OBSERVATION SYSTEM	validated	2
SSIS	SOCIAL SKILLS IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM	validated	2
ToM	THEORY OF MIND TEST	validated	2
BAS (2)	BRITISH ABILITY SCALE	validated	2
MESS Y	MATSON EVALUATION OF SOCIAL SKILLS WITH YOUNGSTERS	validated	2
SPS	SOCIAL PRAGMATIC SCALE	cited in literature	2
ADI	AUTISM DIAGNOSTIC INTERVIEW REVISED	validated	2
BPVS	THE BRITISH PICTURE VOCABULARY SCALE	validated	2
CDI	CHILD DEVELOPMENT INVENTORY	validated	2
GAS	GOAL ATTAINMENT SCALING	validated	2
LSAS	LEIBOWITZ SOCIAL ANXIETY SCALE	validated	2

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
PEDI	THE PEDIATRIC EVALUATION OF DISABILITY INVENTORY	validated	2
RSES	ROSENBERG SELF-ESTEEM SCALE	validated	2
SCL-90	SYMPTOM CHECKLIST-90-REVISED	validated	2
SIAS	SOCIAL INTERACTION ANXIETY SCALE	validated	2
SPIN	SOCIAL PHOBIA INVENTORY	validated	2
VSEEC	VINELAND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD SCALES	validated	2
AAMD	AAMD ADAPTIVE BEHAVIOR SCALE	validated	2
ACTeRs	ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER WITH HYPERACTIVITY COMPREHENSIVE BEHAVIOR CHECKLIST	validated	2
CGSQ	CAREGIVER STRAIN QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	2
GAF	GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF FUNCTIONING	validated	2
HSQ	HOME SITUATIONS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	2
IRSA	INTERACTION RATING SCALE ADVANCED	validated	2
SICD	SEQUENCED INVENTORI OF COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT	validated	2
SSQ (2)	SCHOOL SITUATIONS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	2
TACL	TEST OF AUDITORY COMPRHENSION OF LANGUAGE	validated	2
TSRS	TIMED STEREOTYPIES RATING SCALE	cited in literature	2
WHO QOL	WHO QUALITY OF LIFE	validated	2
D-KEF	DELIS-KAPLAN BATTERY OF EXECUTIVE FUNCTION SYSTEM	validated	2
HAM-A	HAMILTON ANXIETY RATING SCALE	validated	2
OACIS	OHIO AUTISM CLINICAL IMPRESSIONS SCALE	cited in literature	2
TMT	TRAIL MAKING TEST	validated	2
BDI	BECK DEPRESSION INVENTORY	validated	2
BOT	BRUININKS-OSERETSKY TEST OF MOTOR PROFICIENCY	validated	2
CIS-P	COLUMBIA IMPAIRMENT SCALE	validated	2
DASS	DEPRESSION ANXIETY STRESS SCALES	validated	2
IRI	INTERPERSONAL REACTIVITY INDEX	validated	2
RMF	READING THE MIND IN FILMS	validated	2
RMV	READING THE MIND IN THE VOICE	validated	2
SCARED	SCREEN FOR CHILD ANXIETY RELATED DISORDERS	validated	2
TOL	TOWER OF LONDON	validated	2

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
WeeFI M	THE FUNCTIONAL INDEPENDENCE MEASURE FOR CHILDREN	validated	2
ABI	AUTISM BEHAVIOR INVENTORY	cited in literature	1
ABLL S	THE ASSESSMENT OF BASIC LANGUAGE AND LEARNING SKILLS	validated	1
ALQ	ACHIEVED LEARNING QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	1
ASDS	ASPERGER SYNDROME DIAGNOSTIC SCALE	validated	1
ASIEP	AUTISM SCREENING INSTRUMENT FOR EDUCATIONAL PLANNING	validated	1
ASQ (2)	AUTISM SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
ASSP	AUTISM SOCIAL SKILLS PROFILE	validated	1
BDEF S	BARKLEY DEFICIT IN EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING SCALE	validated	1
BDI (2)	THE BATTELLE DEVELOPMENTAL INVENTORY	validated	1
BFR	BENTON FACIAL RECOGNITION TEST	validated	1
BFRS	BEHAVIOR FLEXIBILITY RATING SCALE	validated	1
BSQ	BEHAVIOR SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
CAPE S-DD	CHILD ADJUSTMENT AND PARENT EFFICACY SCALE-DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY (PARENT OR TEACHER)	validated	1
CASI	CHILD AND ADOLESCENT SYMPTOM INVENTORY	validated	1
CBRS	CHILD BEHAVIOR RATING SCALE	validated	1
CDI (2)	CHILD DEPRESSION INVENTORY	validated	1
Class Obs	CLASSROOM OBSERVATION MEASURE	cited in literature	1
COSM IC	CLASSROOM OBSERVATION SCHEDULE TO MEASURE INTENTIONAL COMMUNICATION	cited in literature	1
CT	CONFLICTALK QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
DPA	DEVELOPMENTAL PLAY ASSESSMENT	validated	1
EAS	PARENTAL EMOTIONAL AVAILABILITY SCALES	validated	1
ECBI	THE EYBERG CHILD BEHAVIOR INVENTORY	validated	1
EDQ	EMOTIONS DEVELOPMENT QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
EIDP	EARLY INTERVENTION DEVELOPMENTAL PROFILE	validated	1
ERC	EMOTION RECOGNITION CARTOONS	cited in literature	1
ERS	ENVIRONMENTAL RATING SCALE	validated	1
FEDQ	FUNCTIONAL EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	1

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
FEP	FACIAL EXPRESSION PHOTOGRAPHS	validated	1
FFNS	FIVE FACTOR NEGOTIATION SCALE	validated	1
FS	FRIENDSHIP SURVEY	cited in literature	1
GEM	GRIFFITH EMPATHY MEASURE	validated	1
GMS	GLOBAL MOOD SCALE	validated	1
HKBA BS	HONG KONG BASED ADAPTIVE BEHAVIORAL SCALES	validated	1
HRQO L	HEALTH-RELATED QUALITY OF LIFE	validated	1
HSQ (2)	HUMOR STYLE QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
HUI	HEALTH UTILITY INDEX	validated	1
IECA	INDEX OF EMPATHY FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS	validated	1
IRS	INTERACTION RATING SCALE	validated	1
J-MAP	MILLER ASSESSMENT FOR PRESCHOOLERS (JAPANESE VERSION)	validated	1
LFL- MT	LANGUAGE FOR LEARNING MASTERY TEST	cited in literature	1
LS	LONELINESS SCALE	validated	1
M- CHAT	MODIFIED CHECKLIST FOR AUTISM IN TODDLERS	validated	1
PBCL	PRE- SCHOOL BEHAVIOR CHECKLIST	validated	1
PDA	PEAK DIRECT TRAINING ASSESSMENT	cited in literature	1
PDD- MRS	SCALE OF PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER IN MENTALLY RETARDED PERSONS	validated	1
PDH	PARENTAL DAILY HASSLES	validated	1
PEFE	ASSESSMENT OF PERCEPTION OF EMOTION FROM FACIAL EXPRESSION	validated	1
PEI	PUPIL EVALUATION INVENTORY	validated	1
PEPC	ASSESSMENT OF PERCEPTION OF EMOTION FROM POSTURE CUES	validated	1
PEQ	PARENTAL EFFICACY QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	1
PHQ	THE PATIENT HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
PP	PRAGMATICS PROFILE	validated	1
PTCP	PRESCHOOL TEACHER-CHILD PLAY	cited in literature	1
REEL S	RECEPTIVE-EXPRESSIVE EMERGENT LANGUAGE SCALE	validated	1
RRQ	RUMINATION-REFLECTION QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
SACQ	STUDENT ADAPTATION TO COLLEGE QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
SAS (2)	SOCIAL ANXIETY SCALE	validated	1
SBRS	SOCIAL BEHAVIOR RATING SCALE	cited in literature	1
SCI	SOCIAL COMPETENCE INVENTORY	validated	1
SDQ (3)	SOCIAL DISSATISFACTION QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
SEE	SOCIAL EMOTIONAL EVALUATION	validated	1
SEF	SENSORY EVALUATION FORM	cited in literature	1
SIB	SCALES OF INDEPENDENT BEHAVIOR	validated	1
SIS	SUPPORTS INTENSITY SCALE	validated	1
SKA	SKILLSTREAMING KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT	validated	1
SN	SOCIAL NETWORK SURVEY	cited in literature	1
SSES	SOCIAL SELF-EFFICACY SCALE	validated	1
SSI	SOCIAL SKILLS INVENTORY	validated	1
ToM- A	THEORY OF MIND ADVANCED TEST	cited in literature	1
TOPS	TEST OF PROBLEM SOLVING	validated	1
TRF	ACHENBACH CHILD BEHAVIOR CHECKLIST— TEACHER REPORT FORM	validated	1
UF	UNMASKING THE FACE TESTS	validated	1
VARS	VENHAM ANXIETY RATING SCALE	cited in literature	1
VBRS	VENHAM BEHAVIOUR RATING SCALE	cited in literature	1
WAIS	WECHSLER ADULT INTELLIGENCE SCALE	validated	1
WASI	WECHSLER ABBREVIATED SCORE FOR INTELLIGENCE	validated	1
ACS	ADVANCE CLINICAL SOLUTIONS COGNITIVE TEST BATTERY	validated	1
ADP	ALPERN-BOLL DEVELOPMENT PROFILE	validated	1
BAS	BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT SCALE	cited in literature	1
BAS (3)	BROWN AGGRESSION SCALE	validated	1
BPI	BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS INVENTORY	validated	1
BSSS	BEHAVIORAL SOCIAL SCREENING SCALE	validated	1
CESD	CENTRE FOR EPIDEMIOLOGIC STUDIES DEPRESSION SCALE	validated	1
CVL	CALIFORNIA VERBAL LEARNING TEST	validated	1
FOS- ASD	FAMILY OBSERVATION SCHEDULE—AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS	validated	1
GHQ	GENERAL HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
HSS	HOME SITUATIONAL SCALE	cited in literature	1
ICRS	IOWA CONNERS RATING SCALE	validated	1
MDM Q	MULTIDIMENSIONAL MOOD STATE QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
MILI	MULTILEVEL INFORMAL LANGUAGE INVENTORY	validated	1
MN- PARS	MINNESOTA PRESCHOOL AFFECT RATING SCALES	validated	1
NGI	NURSES' GLOBAL IMPRESSION	validated	1
OARS -4	OSU AUTISM RATING SCALE–DSM-IV	cited in literature	1
SDQ (2)	SLEEP DIFFICULTIES QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
SDS	ZUNG SELF-RATING DEPRESSION SCALE	validated	1
SIB-Q	SELF-INJURIOUS BEHAVIOR QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
SPS (2)	SENSORY PROFILE SCALE	validated	1
TAS	TORONTO ALEXITHYMIA SCALE	validated	1
TBRs	TIME BEHAVIOURAL RATING SHEET	cited in literature	1
TDPR S	TURGAY DSM-IV PDD RATING SCALE	validated	1
TOAL	TEST OF ADOLESCENT LANGUAGE	validated	1
TSA	TARGET SYMPTOMS ASSESSMENT	cited in literature	1
TSSA	TRIAD SOCIAL SKILLS ASSESSMENT	validated	1
UNSW	UNSW FACIAL EMOTION TASK	cited in literature	1
YMRS	YOUNG MANIA RATING SCALE	validated	1
ABAS	ADAPTIVE BEHAVIOR ASSESSMENT SYSTEM	validated	1
ADQ	SOCIAL ADAPTIVE DEVELOPMENT QUOTIENT SCALE	validated	1
AIM	AUTISM IMPACT MEASURE	validated	1
AMT	ANIMATIONS MENTALIZING TEST	validated	1
AOQ	AFFECTION FOR OTHERS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
ASQ	AUTISM SYMPTOMS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
ASRS	ADULT ADHD SELF-REPORT SCALE	validated	1
ASSQ	ANXIOUS SELF-STATEMENTS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
ATQ	AUTOMATIC THOUGHTS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
BACS	BRIEF ASSESSMENT OF COGNITION IN SCHIZOPHRENIA	validated	1
BYI	BECK YOUTH INVENTORIES	validated	1
CASP	CHILD AND ADOLESCENT SOCIAL PERCEPTION MEASURE	validated	1

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
CATS	CHILDREN'S AUTOMATIC THOUGHTS SCALE	validated	1
CGI-C	CLINICAL GLOBAL IMPRESSION OF CHANGE	validated	1
CPT	CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE TEST	validated	1
CSDI	COMPOSITE SLEEP DISTURBANCE INDEX	cited in literature	1
CTS	CAREY TEMPERAMENT SCALES	validated	1
DAYC	DEVELOPMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN	validated	1
DBDR S- ADHD	DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR DISORDERS RATING SCALE	validated	1
DIPA B	DIAGNOSIS OF PSYCHOTIC BEHAVIOR IN CHILDREN	validated	1
ECO	ECOLOGICAL COMMUNICATION ORIENTATION	validated	1
EES	EMOTIONAL EMPATHY SCALE	validated	1
ERQ	EMOTION REGULATION QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
ERT	EMOTION RECOGNITION TASK	cited in literature	1
EVT (2)	EMOTION VOCABULARY TASK	cited in literature	1
FAPC	FISHER'S AUDITORY PROBLEMS CHECKLIST	validated	1
FBT	QUESTIONNAIRE OF MOVEMENT THERAPY (FRAGEBOGEN FUER BEWEGUNGSTHERAPIE)	cited in literature	1
FQS	FEAR QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
GADS	GILLIAM ASPERGER DISORDER SCALE	validated	1
GAQ	GENERAL AFFECTION QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
GSE	GENERALIZED SELF-EFFICACY SCALE	validated	1
HSI	HEIDELBERGER STATE INVENTORY	cited in literature	1
HSQ (3)	HEARING SENSITIVITY QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	1
ITPA	ILLINOIS TEST OF PSYCHOLINGUISTIC ABILITIES	validated	1
IVA	INTEGRATED VISUAL AND AUDITORY CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE TEST	validated	1
JTAT	STANDARDIZED TEST OF JOINT ATTENTION	validated	1
LASM I	LIFE ASSESSMENT SCALE FOR MENTALLY ILLNESS	validated	1
LDS	RESCORLA LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT SURVEY	validated	1
LQ	LONELINESS QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	1
MABC	MOVEMENT ASSESSMENT BATTERY FOR CHILDREN	validated	1
MASS	MULTIDIMENSIONAL ADOLESCENT SATISFACTION SCALE	validated	1

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
MET	MULTIFACETED EMPATHY TEST	validated	1
MTDA	MUSIC THERAPY DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT	cited in literature	1
PCIQ	PARENT-CHILD INTERACTION QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
PIA- CV	PARENT INTERVIEW FOR AUTISM - CLINICAL VERSION	validated	1
PIM	PEER INTERACTION MEASURE	cited in literature	1
PIP	PEER INTERACTION PROTOCOL	cited in literature	1
PSQI	PITTSBURGH SLEEP QUALITY INDEX	validated	1
QOLI	THE QUALITY OF LIFE INVENTORY	validated	1
RAAD S	RITVO AUTISM ASPERGER DIAGNOSTIC SCALE	validated	1
RCAD S	REVISED CHILD ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION SCALE	validated	1
RTB	REPETITIVE THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIOR	validated	1
SANS	SCALE FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS	validated	1
SAS	SEVERITY OF AUTISM SCALE	cited in literature	1
SBQ	SENSORY BEHAVIOR QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	1
SCoRS	SCHIZOPHRENIA COGNITION RATING SCALE	validated	1
SCPQ	SOCIAL COMPETENCE WITH PEERS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
SEF-Q	SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL FUNCTIONING INTERVIEW	cited in literature	1
SICS	THE SOCIAL INTERACTION CODING SCALE	cited in literature	1
SIPT	SENSORY INTEGRATION AND PRAXIS TEST	validated	1
SOC	SENSE OF COHERENCE SCALE	validated	1
SP (2)	SENSORY PROBLEMS QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
SPM	SENSORY PROCESSING MEASURE	validated	1
SSQ (3)	SOUND SENSITIVITY QUESTIONNAIRE	cited in literature	1
SSS	STRESS SURVEY SCHEDULE	validated	1
ST	STROOP TASK	validated	1
SWQ	SOCIAL WORRIES QUESTIONNAIRE	validated	1
TOSS A	TEST OF SUSTAINED SELECTIVE ATTENTION	validated	1
TOVA	TEST OF VARIABLE ATTENTION	validated	1
VMI	BEERY-BUKTENICA DEVELOPMENTAL TEST OF VISUAL-MOTOR INTEGRATION—5TH EDITION	validated	1

Acroni m	Scale full name	Validati on	Studies adopting the scale as outcome
VSMS	VINELANS SOCIAL MATURITY SCALE	validated	1
WCST	WISCONSIN CARD SORTING TEST	validated	1
WFT	WALK IN THE FOREST TEST	cited in literature	1
WJ	WOODCOCK-JOHNSON III TESTS OF ACHIEVEMENT	validated	1
Wmm A	“WHAT MAKES ME ANGRY”	cited in literature	1

Table s3. Risk of bias assessment for the included RCTs (354). In the included studies, quality of reporting according with (Penson et al., 2013) was good in 11 RCTs, fair in 107 RCTs and poor in 235 RCTs.

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Adams et al., 2004	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Adams et al., 2011	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Adkins et al., 2012	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Akhondzadeh et al., 2004	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Akhondzadeh et al., 2008	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Akhondzadeh et al., 2010	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Al-Ayadhi et al., 2013	?	High R.	High R.	?	?	High R.	?
Al-Ayadhi et al., 2015	?	High R.	High R.	?	?	High R.	?
Aldred et al., 2004	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	Low R.
Allam et al., 2008	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Almirall et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Aman et al., 2010	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Amatachaya et al., 2014	Low R.	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	?
Amatachaya et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Amminger et al., 2007	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Anagnostou et al., 2012	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	Low R.	High R.
Anderson et al., 1984	?	?	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	High R.
Anderson et al., 1989	?	?	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	High R.
Andrews et al., 2013	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	?
Anninos et al., 2016	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Arnold et al., 2006	?	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.
Arnold et al., 2012	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Asadabadi et al., 2013	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
August et al., 1987	High R.	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Baghdadli et al., 2013	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Barthelmey et al., 1981	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Bass et al., 2009	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Beaumont et al., 2008	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	?
Beeghly et al., 1987	?	?	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.
Begeer et al., 2011	?	Low R.	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Begeer et al., 2015	Low R.	High R.	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Beisler et al., 1986	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.	High R.
Belsito et al., 2001	Low R.	?	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Stephen Bent et al., 2011	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Bent et al., 2014	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	Low R.
Bertoglio et al., 2010	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.
Bettison, 1996	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Borgi et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Bouvard et al., 1995	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Buchsbaum et al., 2001	?	?	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Buday, 1995	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Buitelaar et al., 1990	?	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.
Buitelaar et al., 1992	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Buitelaar et al., 1996	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.
Campbell et al., 1982	?	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	?
Campbell et al., 1988	?	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.
Campbell et al., 1990	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Campbell et al., 1993	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	High R.
Carey et al., 2002	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	?
Carminati et al., 2016	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Casenhiser et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	?
Chalfant et al., 2007	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Chan et al., 2009	?	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	?
Chan et al., 2012	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Chan et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Chez et al., 2000	High R.	High R.	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Chez et al., 2002	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Chez et al., 2003	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Chugani et al., 2016	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Coggins et al., 1988	?	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Cohen et al., 1980	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Coniglio et al., 2001	?	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Corbett et al., 2001	?	?	?	?	High R.	High R.	?
Corbett et al., 2008	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Corbett et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Cortesi et al., 2012	Low R.	High R.	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Dadds et al., 2014	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Danfors et al., 2005	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.
Dawson et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	?	?
Dawson et al., 2012	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	?

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
de Vries et al., 2015	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
DeRosier et al., 2011	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Dollfus et al., 1992	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Dolske et al., 1993	?	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Domes et al., 2014	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Drahota et al., 2011	Low R.	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Dunn-Geier et al., 2000	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Edelson, Arin, et al., 1999	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Edelson, Edelson, et al., 1999	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Ekman et al., 1989	Low R.	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Elder et al., 2006	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Enticott et al., 2014	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Escalona et al., 2001	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Fahmy et al., 2013	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Fankhauser et al., 1992	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Fazlioglu et al., 2008	?	?	High R.	?	?	Low R.	Low R.
Feldman et al., 1999	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Findling et al., 1997	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Fletcher-Watson et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Flores et al., 2014	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	?	?	?
Frankel et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Freitag et al., 2016	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Frye et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Fujii et al., 2013	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Gabriels et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Gantman et al., 2012	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Garstang et al., 2006	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	?
Gattino et al., 2011	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Geier et al., 2011	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	?
Geretsegger et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Gev et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Ghaleiha et al., 2013	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Ghaleiha et al., 2014	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	?
Ghaleiha et al., 2015	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	?
Ghaleiha et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Ghalichi et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Ghanizadeh et al., 2013	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	?

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Ghanizadeh et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	?
Ghanizadeh et al., 2015	Low R.	High R.	?	Low R.	High R.	?	Low R.
Gillberg et al., 1986	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	?	?
Golan et al., 2006	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Golan et al., 2010	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Goods et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Gordon et al., 1992	?	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Gordon et al., 1993	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Gordon et al., 2011	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Gordon et al., 2015	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Granpeesheh et al., 2010	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	?	High R.
Green et al., 2010	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Gringras et al., 2014	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Guastella et al., 2010	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Guastella et al., 2015	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Gulsrud et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Handen et al., 2000	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Handen et al., 2005	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Handen et al., 2009	Low R.	?	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.
Handen et al., 2011	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Handen et al., 2015	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Hardan et al., 2012	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Hardan et al., 2015	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Harfterkamp et al., 2012	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hasanzadeh et al., 2012	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hellings et al., 2005	?	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.
Hendren et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hesselmark et al., 2014	High R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hildebrandt et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hochhauser et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hollander et al., 2003	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hollander et al., 2005	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Hollander, Soorya, et al., 2006	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hollander, Wasserman, et al., 2006	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hollander et al., 2007	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Hollander et al., 2010	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Hollander et al., 2012	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Honomichl et al., 2002	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Hopkins et al., 2011	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Howlin et al., 2007	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Hyman et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Ichikawa et al., 2013	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Ichikawa et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Ingersoll, 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Ingersoll, 2012	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Ingersoll et al., 2016	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Isong et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Jarusiewicz, 2002	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Jaselskis et al., 1992	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Jocelyn et al., 1998	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Johnson et al., 2010	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kaale et al., 2012	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kamps et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.
Kaplan et al., 1998	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kasari et al., 2006	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kasari et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kasari et al., 2012	?	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kasari, Kaiser, et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kasari, Lawton, et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kasari et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kasari et al., 2016	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Keehn et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kent et al., 2013	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.
Kenworthy et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Kern et al., 2001	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Kern et al., 2002	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kern et al., 2013	High R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Khorshid et al., 2006	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kim et al., 2008	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	?	Low R.
King et al., 2001	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	High R.
King et al., 2009	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Klaiman et al., 2013	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Knivsberg et al., 2002	?	?	High R.	?	?	High R.	Low R.

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Koehne et al., 2016	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Koenig et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Kolmen et al., 1995	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Kolmen et al., 1997	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Koning et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kosaka et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Kouijzer et al., 2013	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.	?
Kretzmann et al., 2015	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Kuriyama et al., 2002	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Lamberti et al., 2016	Low R.	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Landa et al., 2011	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Langdon et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Laugeson et al., 2009	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Laugeson et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Lawton et al., 2012	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Layton, 1988	High R.	?	High R.	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Leboyer et al., 1992	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Lelord et al., 1981	?	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.
Lemonnier et al., 2012	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Lerner et al., 2012	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Levine et al., 1997	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Levy et al., 2003	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Loebel et al., 2016	Low R.	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Lopata et al., 2008	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Lopata et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Lopata et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Lopata et al., 2016	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Luby et al., 2006	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Maddox et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Malone et al., 2001	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Mandell et al., 2013	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Mankad et al., 2015	?	Low R.	Low R.	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Marcus et al., 2009	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Marshall et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Martineau et al., 1985	?	?	?	?	?	Low R.	?
McConachie et al., 2014	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
McCracken et al., 2002	?	?	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
McDougle et al., 1996	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
McDougle et al., 1996	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
McKeel et al., 2015	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
McNally Keehn et al., 2013	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
McVey et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Minshaw et al., 2016	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Miral et al., 2008	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Miyajima et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Mohammadi et al., 2013	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Mohammadzahari et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Molloy et al., 2002	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Morgan et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Mudford et al., 2000	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Munasinghe et al., 2010	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Munesue et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Nagaraj et al., 2006	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	?
Navarro et al., 2015	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	?	?
Niederhofer et al., 2003	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Niederhofer, 2004	?	?	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.	?
Nikoo et al., 2015	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Owen et al., 2009	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Owens et al., 2008	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Owley et al., 1999	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Owley et al., 2001	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Pahnke et al., 2014	Low R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Pajareya et al., 2011	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Pearson et al., 2013	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Pfeiffer et al., 2011	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Pineda et al., 2008	?	?	High R.	?	Low R.	?	Low R.
Piravej et al., 2009	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Porges et al., 2014	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Poslawsky et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Pusponegoro et al., 2015	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	?	High R.
Quintana et al., 1995	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Quirnbach et al., 2009	?	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	?
Ratliff-Schaub et al., 2005	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Realmuto et al., 1986	?	?	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	?

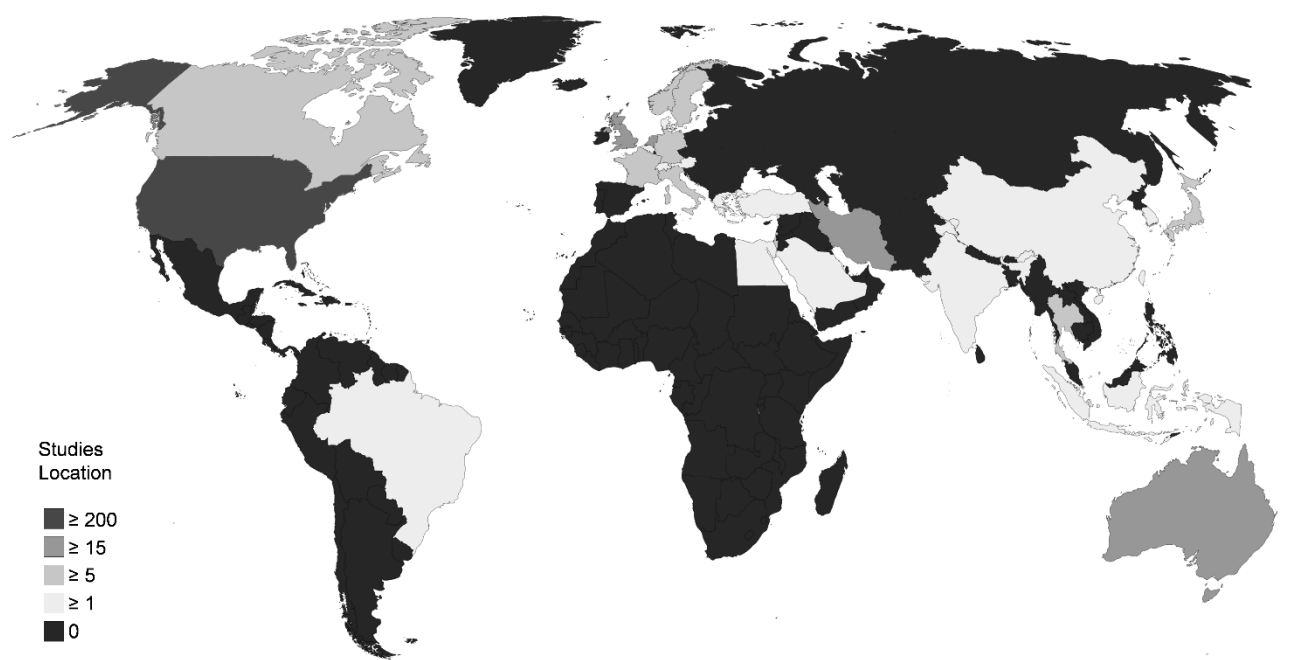
Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Reaven et al., 2012	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Reitzel et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Remington et al., 2001	?	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.
Research Units on Pediatric Psychopharmacology Autism, 2005	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Rezaei et al., 2010	?	?	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Rice et al., 2015	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Rickards et al., 2007	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Rimland et al., 1995	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Roberts et al., 2001	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Roberts et al., 2011	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Rodgers et al., 2015	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Roeyers, 1996	Low R.	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Rogers et al., 2006	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Rossignol et al., 2009	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Russell et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Saad et al., 2015	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Sallows et al., 2005	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Sampanthavivat et al., 2012	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Sandler et al., 1999	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	?	?	Low R.
Santomauro et al., 2016	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Scahill et al., 2015	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	Low R.
Scarpa et al., 2011	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Schaaf et al., 2014	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Schohl et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Schreibman et al., 2014	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Schwartzberg et al., 2013	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Schwartzberg et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Scifo et al., 1991	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	?	Low R.	?
Shea et al., 2004	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Sherman et al., 1989	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	High R.	High R.
Silva et al., 2007	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Silva et al., 2009	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Silver et al., 2001	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Singh et al., 2014	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Smith et al., 1985	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Smith et al., 2014	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Smith et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Sofronoff et al., 2005	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Sofronoff et al., 2007	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	?
Solomon et al., 2004	?	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Solomon et al., 2008	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Solomon et al., 2014	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Soorya et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Spek et al., 2013	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Sponheim et al., 2002	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Srinivasan et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Srinivasan et al., 2016	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Stern et al., 1990	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Storch et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	?	Low R.
Storch et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Strain et al., 2011	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Strickland et al., 2013	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Sugie et al., 2005	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Sung et al., 2011	High R.	High R.	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Tanaka et al., 2010	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Thomeer et al., 2012	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	?	Low R.
Thomeer et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Thomeer et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Thompson et al., 2014	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Tolbert et al., 1993	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Troost et al., 2005	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?	High R.
Unis et al., 2002	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Urbano et al., 2014	Low R.	?	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.
Urbano et al., 2015	?	?	?	?	High R.	High R.	High R.
Van Hecke et al., 2015	?	?	High R.	?	High R.	High R.	?
Veenstra-VanderWeele et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	?
Voigt et al., 2014	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	?
Wasserman et al., 2006	?	?	Low R.	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
Watanabe et al., 2015	Low R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Wehman et al., 2014	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.
Welterlin et al., 2012	?	?	High R.	?	Low R.	?	Low R.

Reference	Random sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blinding of participants and personnel	Blinding of outcome assessment	Incomplete outcome data	Selective reporting	Other source of bias
Wetherby et al., 2014	Low R.	?	High R.	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
White et al., 2013	Low R.	?	High R.	?	Low R.	High R.	Low R.
White et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	?	Low R.
Whiteley et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	?	High R.	?	Low R.
Willemssen-Swinkels et al., 1995	?	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Willemssen-Swinkels et al., 1995	?	High R.	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Willemssen-Swinkels et al., 1996	?	High R.	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Williams et al., 2012	?	?	High R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Wink et al., 2016	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Wong et al., 2007	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.
Wong, W.-X. Chen, et al., 2010	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Wong & Q. K. Kwan, 2010	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.
Wong et al., 2010	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Wong, 2013	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	?
Woo et al., 2013	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.
Woo et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.
Wood et al., 2009	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Wood et al., 2015	Low R.	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Wright et al., 2011	Low R.	?	?	?	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Wu et al., 2016	?	?	High R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Yarbrough et al., 1987	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.
Yatawara et al., 2016	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	Low R.	Low R.
Yoder et al., 2006	Low R.	Low R.	High R.	?	Low R.	High R.	?
Yoo et al., 2014	Low R.	?	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.	High R.
Young et al., 2016	Low R.	High R.	High R.	Low R.	High R.	?	Low R.
Yui et al., 2012	Low R.	?	?	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.	Low R.

Table s4. Study location.

Location	N of studies
United States	221
United Kingdom	24
Australia	23
Netherlands	19
Iran	18
Canada	11
France	10
Japan	10
Italy	9
Hong Kong	7
Sweden	7
Norway	6
Germany	5
Israel	5
Thailand	5
Austria	3
Egypt	3
Singapore	3
China	2
India	2
South Korea	2
Saudi Arabia	2
Turkey	2
Belgium	1
Brazil	1
Denmark	1
Greece	1
Indonesia	1
Switzerland	1
Taiwan	1



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