

Who is this for?

This is briefing is for Communities, Schools and Families to alert and warn you about a medical procedure claiming to cure for autism.

What we know?

A Doctor from Bangladesh has run sessions in London for parents with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). These sessions wrongly claimed they can cure ASD with a new treatment. The treatment they are offering is an injection of a type of blood cells, called stem cells. This experimental treatment for Autism is unlicensed in UK, USA and other countries.

We have spoken to NHS colleagues including Paediatricians and they strongly advised that families should **NOT** take up this treatment.

There are real risks this could be harmful for children with ASD and there is no clear evidence that it will help them.

The Doctor seems to be targeting Bangladesh and other Asian families.

The Doctor is asking for £100 for an appointment, £8000 for the treatment and £350 for vitamins. He sometimes asks for this in American dollars.

This is both a medical and financial scam. We recommend that you DO NOT pay for or agree for this procedure to be undertaken on your child.

Who can I talk to?

- Your social worker or early help worker
- Your GP or Paediatrician or NHS 111
- Your School
- The police on 101 or online at www.police.uk;

General Information about Autism?

Autism is a lifelong neurodevelopment difference that can have an impact on many areas of a person's life. Autistic people often experience differences in how they process information and their sensory environment and in how they understand and interact with other people.

While autistic people share some similar characteristics, they are also all different from each other. This is because autism is considered a 'spectrum'. Like all people, autistic people have their own strengths and weaknesses.

Useful Links for support:

National Autistic Society (autism.org.uk)
Where to get autism support - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
The Family Hub | London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (lbhf.gov.uk)
Autism Education & Resources | Autism Speaks