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ARTICLE: High Depressive Symptoms, Low Family Functioning, and Low Self-Efficacy in Mothers of Children With Autism Spectrum Disorder Compared to Two Control Groups

{ *Families of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) face unique challenges in raising their children, and health providers, including nurses and psychiatric nurse practitioners endeavor to provide care and support. There has been increased access to services, public awareness, and community acceptance of the ASD diagnosis over the past two decades.* }

Page 1

Research

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{ *Given that parents of children with ASD are at increased risk for depression, and that ASD cannot be diagnosed until 12 to 18 months with the average age of diagnosis at 4 years old, regular parental depression screening beyond the first year of life is warranted and can be incorporated into the child's ongoing care.* }

Page 13