

Seeking Information

School report:

Severe concerns regarding his learning behaviours, social skills, and emotional regulation.

Support of a dedicated one-on-one. Stood down due to violent behaviour
Unable to follow any instructions independently and poor focus.

Language is unclear, making communication difficult, and he does not willingly engage in classroom

Lacks basic organisational skills and will often remove himself from situations when he becomes overwhelmed.

Socially, starting to engage in parallel play, playing alongside peers, but there is no evidence of interactive or cooperative play.

He displays sensitivities to certain clothing items and is selective with food, refusing to eat some types.

Seeking Information

Teacher report:

Mostly runs around or plays alongside other children, with limited back-and-forth interaction. His eye contact is inconsistent, and he shows limited emotional expression and sharing.

He can become easily angered but occasionally demonstrates remorse afterwards. Swearing at school.

Restrictive behaviours around food, preferring specific textures (e.g., taking mostly "white-coloured foods"). Enjoys sensory activities such as playing with kinetic sand, hunting for snails, and hugging the school cat.

Seeking Information

- Occupational therapist report

The profile is reported to be much more than others for sensory avoidance, sensory sensitivity, sensory registration and sensory seeking. Sensory processing is much more than other children, and attention responses are associated with sensory processing as compared to others

- External observation

Unable to settle. Poor eye contact and did not engage in task. Speech unclear. Not able to do much.

Examination

Did not run away

The cardiorespiratory system was normal. The abdomen was non-tender with no hepatosplenomegaly. BP was 98/54.

Eye contact was variable. Not respond to his name and age. His words are unclear at times. Wrote but not spell the word "cat".

Declined to do the blocks or puzzle/other activities/tasks with him.

Mainly repetitive play with soap and water and rolled (with a toy roller) this (soap/water) across the wall and floor in the clinic.



Diagnosis?

Kanorau ā-roro

Neurodevelopmental conditions in
children and young people in Aotearoa



Key 2021/22 Prevalence Data:

- **Autism (ASD):** Approximately 2% of New Zealanders (aged 5+) are diagnosed with autism. An estimated 70,000+ people.
- **ADHD (Children 2-14):** Data from [Figure.NZ](#) shows that in 2021, reported ADHD diagnoses were 5.6% for boys and 0.9% for girls.
- **ADHD (Adults):** [Healthy NZ](#) notes ADHD affects roughly 1 in 20 adults, or approximately 280,000 New Zealanders, based on broader estimates.



University
of Otago
OTĀKOU WHAKAHEHU WAKA

Te Ratonga Mātai Tahumaero
Taitamariki o Aotearoa
New Zealand Child & Youth
Epidemiology Service

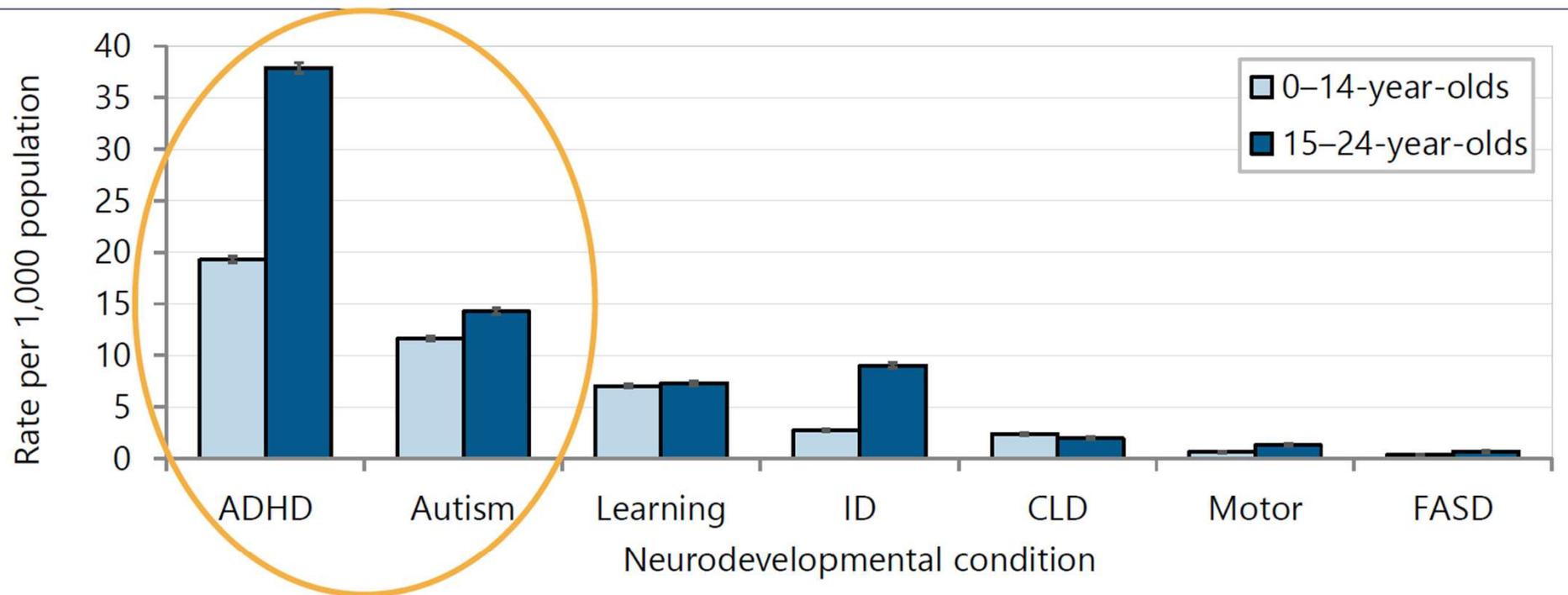
Kanorau ā-roro

Neurodevelopmental conditions in
children and young people in Aotearoa



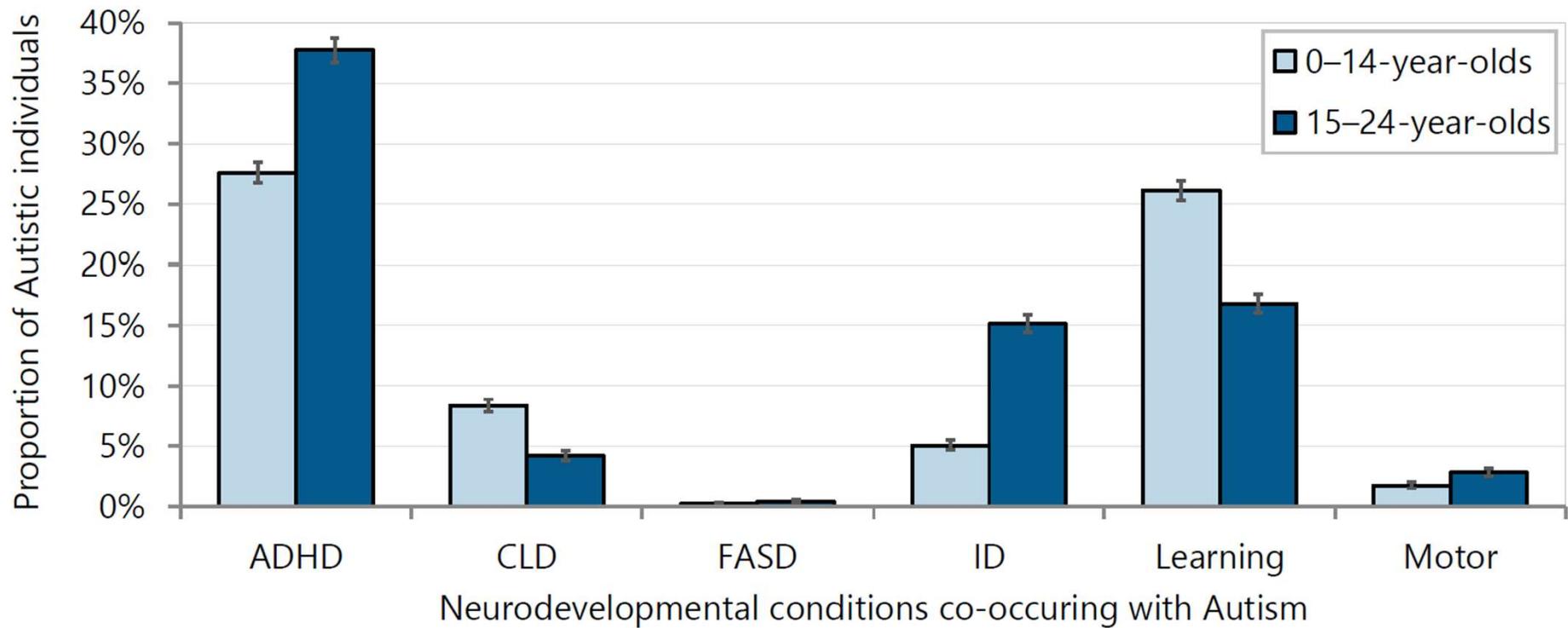
Prevalence estimates

2021/22



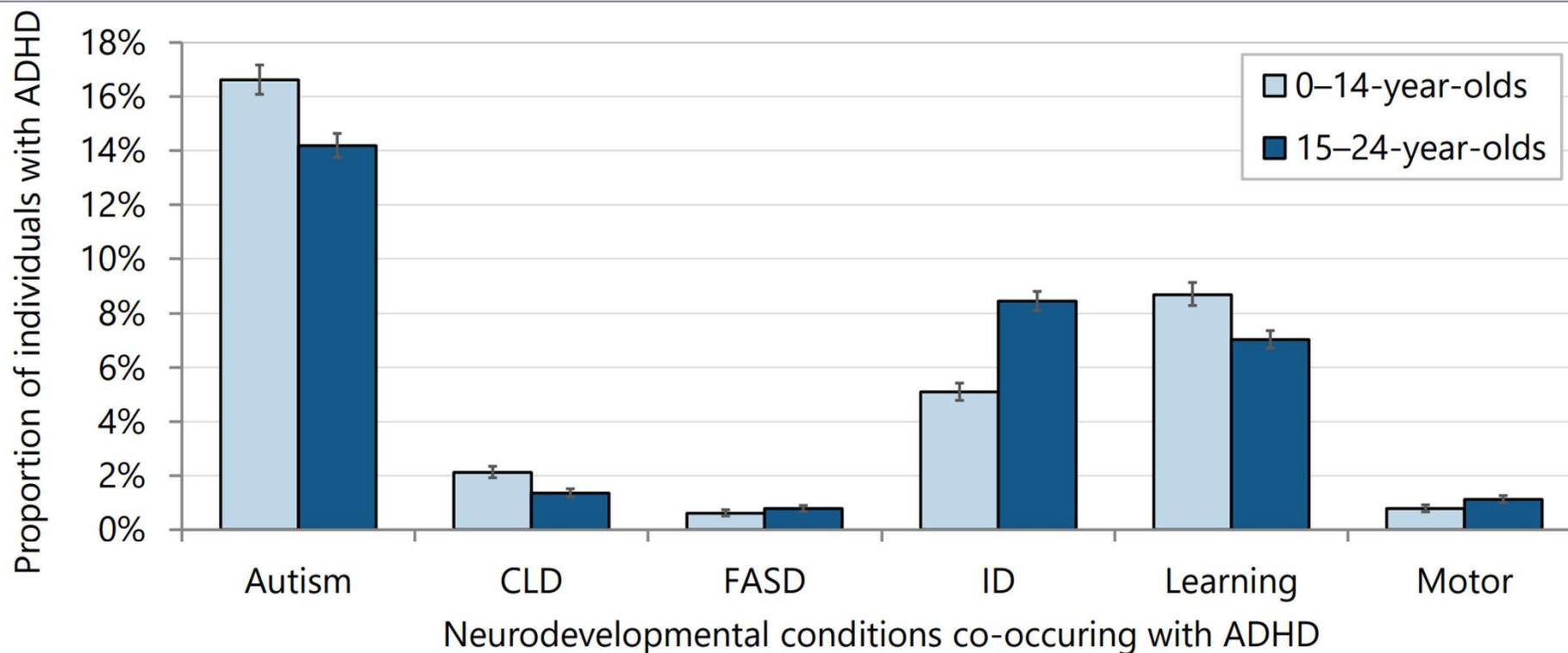
Source: IDI. ADHD = attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; ID = intellectual disability; FASD = foetal alcohol spectrum disorder; CLD = communication or language disorders; Learning = specific learning disorders; Motor = motor disorders.

Co-occurring neurodevelopmental conditions



Source: IDI. ADHD = attention deficit hyperactivity disorder; CLD = communication or language disorders; FASD = foetal alcohol spectrum disorder; ID = intellectual disability; Learning = specific learning disorders; Motor = motor disorders.

Co-occurring neurodevelopmental conditions



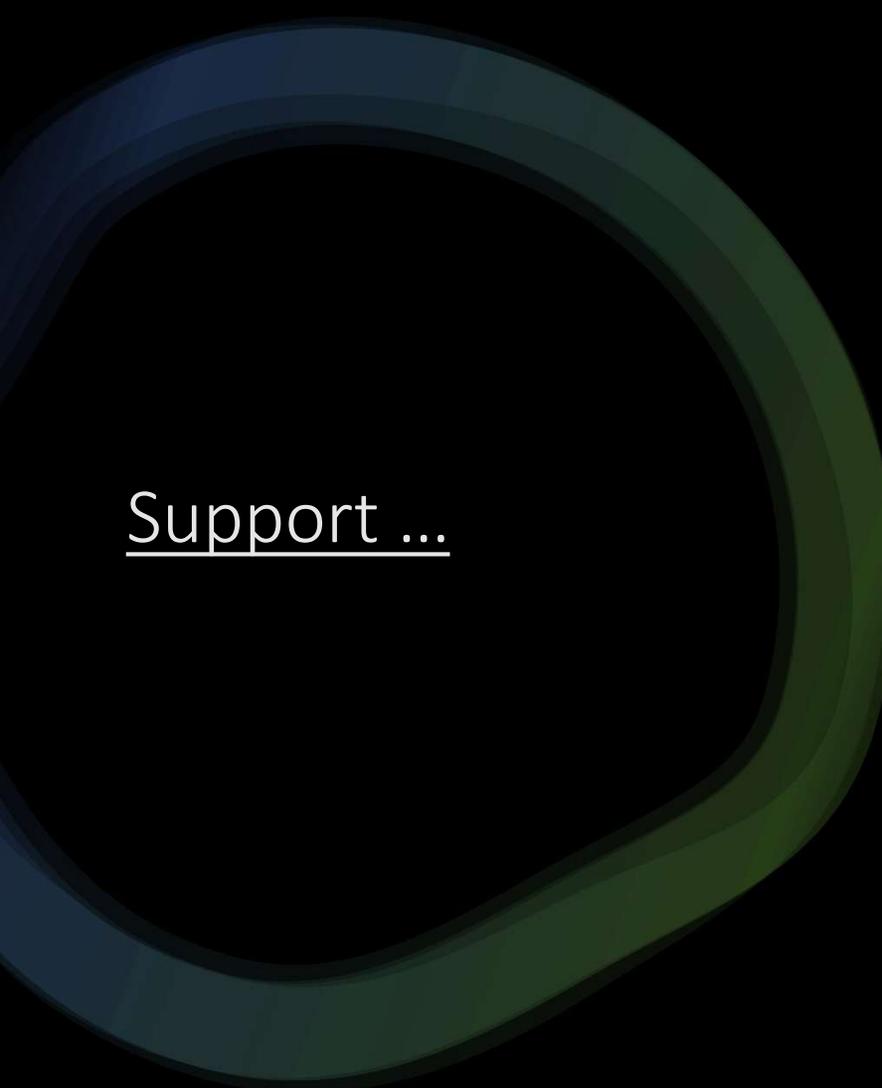
Source: IDI. CLD = communication or language disorders; FASD = foetal alcohol spectrum disorder; ID = intellectual disability; Learning = specific learning disorders; Motor = motor disorders.



Diagnosis

1. ADHD
2. Autism Spectrum disorder with language difficulty needing substantial support





Support ...

- Taikura Trust
- Explore Autism
- Child Disability allowance
- Ministry of Education Support
- Referral to Speech Therapist
- Online information

Medication

