EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

1. To be able to properly identify and separate “autistic-like” symptoms from autistic spectrum disorder (ASD) in children who read early, speak late, or are blind.
2. To be able to provide examples of hyperlexia types I, II, and III for children who read early; Einstein syndrome for children who speak late; and “blindisms” for children who are severely visually impaired.
3. To understand implications for diagnosis, treatment, and outcome in each of these conditions compared to ASD.

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QUESTIONS

1. The presence of hyperlexia can be:
   - A. Evidence of a serious developmental disorder such as autism.
   - B. A distinct speech and language disorder
   - C. Advanced word recognition in a neurotypically developing child.
   - D. All of the above.

2. Hyperlexia, while present in some children with autistic disorder, is not always linked to that condition.
   - True
   - False

3. Which of the following is not true of the “Einstein syndrome”?
   - A. The presence of exceptional brightness in children who were late in learning to speak.
   - B. The presence of transient “autistic-like” symptoms that can mirror those of children who read early.
   - C. A clear link of the delayed speech to ASD.

4. “Blindisms”—stereotypical movements, language problems, and other behaviors similar to those seen in autistic children—can occur in some congenitally blind children. Which of the following is true?
   - A. These autistic features tend to disappear with age in blind children without cerebral damage.
   - B. These autistic features persist into adolescence and adults in these blind children just as they do with matched, sighted children with autism.

5. For children who read early or speak late, identify which of the following is/are true:
   - A. The first step is a comprehensive assessment by a knowledgeable multidisciplinary team to sort out autism from autistic-like conditions.
   - B. Whether the hyperlexia, Einstein syndrome or “blindisms” are part of an “autistic spectrum disorder” or a transient “autistic-like” condition, treatments typically associated with ASD may be indicated and effective for either condition.
   - C. Eventually, there is a significant difference in outcome between ASD and autistic-like conditions.
   - D. Eventually, there is no difference in outcome between ASD and autistic-like conditions.

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