

## ABSTRACT

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Title: CAREGIVER ASSESSMENT RESULTS PROVIDE INSIGHT ON EFFECT OF SSD ON SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

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Children with a speech sound disorder (SSD) were compared to two other groups: children with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), who have a primary deficit in social communication and children with typical development (TD). Caregiver assessments are expected to give an accurate portrayal of a child's social communication skills. The ASD group scored significantly lower than the SSD and TD groups for the cluster of language and social communication assessments and by parent report. The SSD group and the TD group showed no significant differences in social communication which could be due to the small sample size, the young age of the participants, and the participant's type of speech sound disorder.