April is Autism Awareness Month. Check out these common myths about autism and the truths behind them.

1. Autism only affects boys.

**MYTH**

While autism is four times as prevalent among boys, girls are still diagnosed. Girls with mild cases are diagnosed an average of two years later than boys with the same symptoms, which limits early intervention and lifelong outcomes.¹

**FACT**

2. Autism can be cured.

**MYTH**

There is currently no cure for autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Appropriate intervention at a young age can help improve outcomes, and those diagnosed may be indistinguishable from those who are not diagnosed.²

**FACT**

3. People with autism don’t want friends.

**MYTH**

People with autism can struggle with social skills. They might seem shy or unfriendly, but that’s because they are unable to communicate the desire for friendships the same way other people do.³

**FACT**

4. People with autism don’t feel emotions.

**MYTH**

Things like expressions, body language and tone of voice may be harder to interpret for someone on the spectrum, but they experience emotions just like everyone else.

**FACT**

Seeking autism screening and evaluation? Consider an NP. [WeChooseNPs.org](http://WeChooseNPs.org)

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2. [https://www.beaumont.org/health-wellness/blogs/decipher-these-common-myths-about-autism](https://www.beaumont.org/health-wellness/blogs/decipher-these-common-myths-about-autism)
3. [https://www.autismspeaks.org/blog/11-myths-about-autism](https://www.autismspeaks.org/blog/11-myths-about-autism)