

Co-occurrence

Quick reference
SHEET #1

What is co-occurrence?

Diseases and/or health conditions are said to co-occur when they are found in the same person at the same time.

This is different to **co-morbidity**, which implies that the conditions are also unrelated.

Neurodiversity and co-occurrence

Neurodiverse conditions co-occur at very high rates (see table which shows the results of some research studies).

To see the research studies go to Get into Neurodiversity.

In most cases, **if someone has one neurodiverse condition, they are more likely than not, to have at least one other neurodiverse condition.** Many people have more than two neurodiverse conditions. Some may have elements of conditions but not meet the full criteria for a diagnosis.

		Likelihood of a secondary diagnosis of...							
		ADHD	ASD	DCD	DLD	Dyscalculia	Dyslexia	Intellectual Disability	Tic disorders
Primary diagnosis	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Autism Spectrum Disorder	8		9	10		11	12	13
	Developmental Co-ordination Disorder	14	15		16	17	18	19	20
	Developmental Language Disorder	21	22	23		24	25	26	
	Dyscalculia	27		28			29		
	Dyslexia	30		31		32			33
	Intellectual Disability	34	35	36	37	38			
	Tic disorders	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	

Key: The dark blue segments show the lowest estimated proportion with a given secondary diagnosis; the dark blue and light blue segments combined show the highest estimated proportion with a given secondary diagnosis. The numbers in each cell refer to the studies conducted to show these results.