

Key Points of Autism vs Neurodiversity

- **Neurodivergent vs. Autistic:** Neurodivergent is a broader term that includes various conditions like ADHD, Tourette's syndrome, dyslexia, and more. Autism is just one type of neurodivergence.
- **Neurodiversity Paradigm:** This framework views neurodiversity as a natural part of human diversity, promoting the acceptance and inclusion of neurodivergent individuals. It shifts the focus from seeing these individuals as needing special support to recognizing their strengths and accommodating their differences.
- **Social Model of Disability:** This model suggests that societal barriers, rather than individual limitations, are the primary cause of disability. It advocates for better services and inclusion for neurodivergent people.
- **Neurodiversity Movement:** Emerging in the 1990s, this social justice movement aims to increase the acceptance and inclusion of neurodivergent individuals. It highlights the importance of self-advocacy and the role of online platforms in connecting neurodivergent people.
- **Diverse Capabilities:** Individuals on the autism spectrum have varying language and intellectual abilities, from profound intellectual disability to superior levels.
- **Non-Linear Spectrum:** Autism is not a linear spectrum from "mild" to "severe" but includes various traits that manifest differently in each person.