

## **Diagnostics tool - Canine Autism**

### **SI Impaired social interaction / non verbal marker**

Poor eye contact, or staring from unusual angle  
In his/her own world (aloof)  
Inappropriate/unusual aggression  
Doesn't like to be touched or held (body, head)  
Hates interacting with unknown dogs  
Abnormal joy expression when seeing owners  
Lack of ability to imitate other dogs  
Just doesn't get it

### **QI Qualitative impaired / misplaced communication**

Produces unusual noises or infantile squeals  
Inappropriate vocalisation  
Obsessive, compulsive and/or ritualistic vocalisation (without it being a training/breed issue)

### **SB Stereotyped / patterned behaviour**

Ritualistic behaviour  
Repetitive behaviour  
Arranging toys  
Obsessive behaviour (dog seems unable to stop behaviour e.g. catching shadows)  
Compulsive behaviour (dog gets relief from behaviour e.g. licking/pacing during thunderstorm/fireworks)  
Must have routine  
Cannot switch from one task to another (e.g. playing to eating)  
Prolonged rocking, licking or staring (often at nothing)

### **CI Cognitive / emotional impairment**

Facial expressions don't fit situations  
Ignores when called, pervasive ignoring, not turning head to voice  
Lack of curiosity about the environment  
Unable to read body language of other dogs (either own or strangers)  
Unable to read body language of people (either own or strangers)  
Excessive fear of noises (most dogs are fearful of the vacuum cleaner)  
Excessive fear of sudden or quick movements  
Ignores pain (bumps head accidentally without reacting)  
Inappropriately anxious, scared in general  
Inappropriate emotional response (not reaching to be picked up)  
Self-stimulation, sexual or otherwise  
Self-mutilation  
Attachment to unusual objects

### **PA Physical abnormalities**

Dietary abnormalities (allergies, tastes, textures, bowl preference, location)  
Repetitive and inexplicable head, paw or body jerks, unstable movements during activity or rest phases  
Unable to stretch legs fully  
Abnormal gait