

Table 2 Differential diagnosis of language disorders

Autism	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Atypical verbal language, such as failures in the use of gestures, facial expressions, and gaze exchange- No verbalization or atypical forms, content and use of language (echolalia, pronoun reversal)- Impairment in receptive language- Commitment in symbolic play- Restricted interests
Asperger's syndrome	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Absence of delayed speech- Absence of cognitive impairment- Ability to memorize large amounts of information- Restricted interests- Impairment in reciprocal social interaction
Specific language impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Delay in language development not overcome until 5 years old- Difficulty with the structural aspects of language- High occurrence of deviant phonological processes (not observed in the normal process of language acquisition)- Overuse of gestures and vocalizations- Short speeches, often with inadequate cohesion and coherence
Pragmatic language impairment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Inability in understanding and maintaining conversation- Failures of content and form in sentence construction- Inappropriate social responses- Tangential speech