

## **Understanding Autism Through A Neurodiversity-Affirming, Neuroscience-Informed Lens**

On-Demand Webinar

Length: 58 minutes

### **Course description:**

Autism is a common lifelong neurodevelopmental disability, and healthcare professionals working in all practice settings regularly support autistic patients. In order to effectively meet the needs of autistic patients, professionals must understand autism through a neurodiversity-affirming, neuroscience-informed lens which centers the lived experiences of autistic people.

This course will provide a foundational understanding of autism necessary for further skill development in the area of neurodiversity-affirming care for autistic patients of all ages.

### **Learning objectives:**

At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Discuss autism through a neuroscience-informed, neurodiversity-affirming lens
- Describe the parallels and interrelationship between autistic differences in motor development, sensory processing, and executive functioning

**Speaker:** Iris Warchall, PT, DPT

Iris Warchall (pronouns: she/they) is an autistic self-advocate, parent to an autistic child, and physical therapist specializing in outpatient care for adults with a variety of the health conditions which are more prevalent among autistic people, including hypermobility spectrum conditions, pelvic health concerns, chronic pain, dizziness and vestibular dysfunction, and movement disorders.

### **Course Outline**

- Intro to neurodiversity paradigm and terminology
- Neuroscience of autism
- Shifting from the pathology paradigm to the neurodiversity paradigm
- Putting it all together: A Neurodiversity-Affirming, Neuroscience Informed Understanding of Autism