

DoctorDaum.com

EXPERT TOILET TRAINING

for

CHILDREN UNWILLING OR LATE TO TOILET TRAIN

WITH/WITHOUT SPECIAL NEEDS

“OH NO, HE WON'T GO”

Help for toilet training your autistic child who refuses to go

Unwillingness to toilet train is very common among children with autism.

The primary cause of delayed toilet training in autistic children is stool withholding.

A child who stool withholds is physically able to defecate, but delays defecation either due to

1. fear of pain on passing a stool
2. desire for behavioral control

Stool withholding results in the build up of stool in the rectum with the eventual passage of a large stool.

Stool withholding is a behavior, not a disease or medical problem.

Stool withholding is not related to dietary or fluid intake.

A child who stool withholds and refuses to toilet train creates significant turmoil and frustration within the household. Toilet training an unwilling, autistic child poses a unique challenge as certain traits such as obsessive compulsiveness, perseveration and defiance may be exaggerated. These traits, if present, make toilet training more difficult.

Autistic children frequently do not respond to the usual techniques parents use to toilet train children without special needs.

How toilet training will help your autistic child

Toilet training permits autistic children to have a better self image.

Toilet training improves the ability of autistic children to concentrate in school. Your child will be placed in an appropriate learning setting based on learning potential rather than his/her being in pull-ups/diapers.

Toilet training allows autistic children to concentrate in OT, PT, speech therapy.

Toilet training eliminates rashes, discomfort from being wet or dirty, and the unpleasant odor of stool/urine.

Toilet training makes family vacations fun again and allows autistic children to go to camp, swim in pools and socialize.

Toilet Training Goal:

To eliminate stool withholding and keep your child dry and clean 24 hours a day.

Toilet training an autistic child who stool withholds requires a combination of safe laxatives and behavioral interventions supervised by a knowledgeable physician

The judicious use of laxatives is the standard of care for children who stool withhold.

Dosage is critical and must be tailored to your child.

Use of laxatives should be supervised by an experienced physician.

As all children differ, the behavioral strategies need to be addressed individually.

Toilet training should take 3-7 days, depending on how resistant your child may be. Toilet training is best achieved over a long weekend or during vacation

Doctor Daum believes the keys to successful toilet training are:

1. Teamwork: Parents, schools and your toilet training expert work together as a team for toilet training your child

2. Coaching: Daily, personalized coaching over the telephone with your toilet training expert until successful toilet training is achieved. Your toilet training specialist will make adjustments to the dosage of laxatives and changes in specific behavioral strategies based on your **daily** feedback. Children who stool withhold find surprisingly creative ways to avoid toilet training...your feedback to your doctor will allow an individually tailored approach.

4. Follow-up:

Regular follow-up with schools and programs to implement the correct dosage and behavioral approach is important to assure continuity of treatment and continued success.

5. Support: Many families seek services of a toilet training expert after other efforts to toilet train have not worked. Doctor Daum believes that it is important to be available to families for as long as needed as set backs sometimes occur, especially during times of transition or changes of schedule.

6. Convenience: The Doctor Daum Program is able to conduct consultations and offer treatment by telephone. No office visits are necessary. The cost and inconvenience of travel is eliminated and there will be no disruption to your home and family life.

Doctor Daum believes that any child who can respond to simple commands can be toilet trained. If you have questions or seek more information, feel free to contact DoctorDaum.com

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