

 **TABLE 10.2** Associated Characteristics of Individuals With Autism Spectrum Disorders

Areas of Concern	Behaviors
Concentration and Attention	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hyperactivity• Short attention span• Impulsivity• Stimulus overselectivity (selective attention)
Anxiety Disorders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-injurious behaviors• Excessive scratching or rubbing• Limiting diet to a few foods• Eating inedible items (pica)• Obsessive-compulsive disorder
Affective Disorders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Abnormalities of mood or affect (giggling or crying for no apparent reason)• Sleeping problems (difficulties falling asleep, frequent awakening, early morning awakening)• Bed-wetting• Depression, suicidal ideation
Learning Difficulties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uneven achievement• Impaired executive functioning• Poor reading comprehension• Inadequate receptive/expressive language skills• Difficulty generalizing skills or information