## Module: Early Identification of Autism Spectrum Disorders

### Table 2: Recommended Instruments for Diagnostic Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FORMAT</th>
<th>AGE RANGE</th>
<th>TIME TO COMPLETE</th>
<th>TRAINING NEEDS</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ADI-R  | Parent Interview | 18 months - adult | 1½ – 3 hours | Intensive | o Maps on to DSM-IV  
o Requires workshop and scoring of training videos to use independently  
 o Primarily used for research purposes; length makes it less feasible for clinical practice |
| ADOS   | Direct Testing | 12 months - adult | 30 – 50 minutes | Intensive | o Maps on to DSM-IV  
 o Excellent psychometric properties; “gold standard” assessment tool  
 o New toddler module appropriate for 12 months and older  
 o Requires workshop and scoring of training videos to use independently |
| AOSI   | Direct Testing | 6 - 18 months | 20 minutes | Intensive | o Appropriate for very young infants  
 o Requires workshop and scoring of training videos to use independently |
| CARS   | Direct Testing or Observation | 2 years - adult | 30 minutes | Moderate | o Good agreement with other measures  
 o Based on older (pre-DSM-IV) conceptualizations of autism  
 o Does not measure some central early signs of autism (showing, joint attention) |

**ADI -R** = Autism Diagnostic Interview – Revised (Rutter et al., 2003a)  
**ADOS** = Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (Lord et al., 2002)  
**AOSI** = Autism Observation Scale for Infants (Bryson et al., 2008)  
**CARS** = Childhood Autism Rating Scale (Schopler et al., 1988)