University of Baghdad	
College Name	**MEADICIAL**
Department	**Field Epidemiology**
Full name as written in passport	**Sura Hassan Al-Hares**
e-mail	
Career	⦙ **Assistant Lecturer** ⦙ **Lecturer** ⦙ **Assistant Professor** ⦙ **Professor**
	⦙ **Master** **PhD** ⦙ ⬤ **diploma**
Thesis Title	**Nutritional Status Assessment among Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder Al-Najaf 2015**
Year	**2015**
Abstract	**Background:** Autism is a neurodevelopment disorder with symptoms arising that are apparent throughout the patient's lifespan. Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) is characterized by impaired social and communication interactions as well as restricted, repetitive interests and behavior. . Epidemiological studies show that the incidence of autism is increasing, which may be due to the diagnostic category of ASD having been developed. There is vital importance in the treatment of autism, is early diagnosis which is conducive to more rapidly improving the quality of patients' health. **Aim of Study:** To determine the nutritional status of ASD children in Al-Najaf province 2015 **Methods:** A descriptive cross – sectional study conducted to assess nutritional status in children with autism. A convenient sample of patients with autism in (Al Imam Al Husain Institute of Autism) and autistic patients in psychiatric department in AL-Hakeem hospital from 30th of April 30th of August 2015. The data were collected by questionnaire developed and filled by investigator through direct interview with autistic patient parents that visit psychiatric department in Al-Hakeem hospital and from case study sheet that

present in
AL-Imam Al Husain Institute of Autism which include ID, gender , residency,
age of child (or date of birth??), the age level of education of parents, their
occupation, and by measuring weight and height of children and compare with
wt./age, wt/ht, ht/age & BMI/age growth charts .Epi-info software and Excel
sheet for entry and analysis of data .
Results: the sample size was 98 child, 86 boys and 12 girls & males to females
ratio was 8:1, age groups were (28%) ≤ 5 yr ,(72%) more than 5 year in which
(52%) of them were normal, (33.9%) were overweight and (14%) were
underweight, (28%) of the ≤5yr. were (45%) of them were overweight (37%)
of them had wasting,& (16%) were normal, no significant association between
the nutritional state with gender, residency, age of father, age of mother,
occupation of father, occupation of mother, educational level of fathers and but
there were significant association between level of education of mother and age
group. p value 0.03 .and between age group of children and NS p value less than
0.0000 (less than 0.05).
Conclusion: most cases below and equal 5 yr were overweight& obese 45%
and large percent of above 5years 33% were overweight & obese, there is
significant associations between nutritional status and level of education on of
mothers for children >5 years and NS .