

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S1389-9457(18)30517-3

DOI: [10.1016/j.sleep.2018.07.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.sleep.2018.07.017)

Reference: SLEEP 3776

To appear in: *Sleep Medicine*

Received Date: 24 April 2017

Revised Date: 10 July 2018

Accepted Date: 10 July 2018

Please cite this article as: Prihodova I, Dudova I, Mohaplova M, Hrdlicka M, Nevsimalova S, Childhood narcolepsy and autism spectrum disorders: four case reports, *Sleep Medicine* (2018), doi: 10.1016/j.sleep.2018.07.017.

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Childhood narcolepsy and autism spectrum disorders: four case reports

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Keywords:

Narcolepsy type 1

Asperger syndrome

Autism spectrum disorders

Comorbidity

Hypocretin

Introduction

Narcolepsy type 1 (NT1) is a chronic neurologic disorder with a prevalence of approximately 0.05%. The onset in childhood and adolescence was described in a wide range varying between 5% to 50% of cases [1]. Excessive daytime sleepiness, cataplexy, sleep-related hallucinations and paralysis are characteristic features. NT1 is connected with loss of hypothalamic hypocretin-containing neurons due to presumed autoimmune mechanisms triggered by environmental factors in genetically predisposed individuals [2]. In childhood

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