Table 2

Components of multiagency assessment - adapted from the NAPC

- ASD-specific developmental history by an experienced member of the team with recognised ASD training
- Observational assessments include focused observations taken across more than one setting (such as home, nursery, etc)
- Cognitive assessment, including an individual's unique profile of skills/difficulties on subscales
- Communication, speech and language assessment
- Behaviour and mental health assessment in comorbid neurodevelopmental disorders and psychiatric disorders
- Family assessment, undertaken by the key worker (in some localities, allocation of a key worker during assessment and before diagnosis may provide support for families at this crucial time) to identify strengths and needs using Framework for the Assessment of Children in Need and their Families
- A physical examination and medical investigations as guided by clinical presentation
- Other assessments, including physiotherapy and occupational therapy, should be available to identify sensory needs and problems, motor planning and coordination difficulties, and self-care problems