Children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) have increased need for services and heightened sensitivity to routine changes. COVID-19 disrupted the availability of child and youth services. Observed deterioration of the mental health of children with NDDs. Availability of Services to Children with ASD:

- Academic service loss was related to acute mental health service use.
- Medical service loss was associated with an increase in externalizing symptoms, which was significant when controlling for demographics and COVID-19 related material deprivation.

Regular Access to Academic and Medical Services is Essential to Children with ASD – Particularly During Times of Crisis.

Parents of 265 children with ASD reported a significant loss of services across 4 domains. Medical service loss was associated with an increase in externalizing symptoms, which was significant when controlling for demographics and COVID-19 related material deprivation.

Findings may inform:
1. Plans for the reintroduction of services – such that academic and medical services are prioritized.
2. The future allocation of resources to services.

Analysis Plan
- Multiple linear regression analyses
- Logistic regression analysis

Results
- 8.7% reported acute mental health service use

Relevance
Medical service loss was associated with an increase in externalizing symptoms, which was significant when controlling for demographics and COVID-19 related material deprivation.