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Gal Meiri is the Director of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Unit at Soroka Medical Center and a faculty member of the BGU Medical School. Together with his staff, Gal diagnoses approximately 150 new autism cases annually and performs follow-up assessments of the children until the age of 8. Gal studies the prevalence of autism in the Bedouin community with a focus on understanding cross-cultural social, genetic, and environmental risk factors. In addition Gal has initiated a new program to implement MCHAT screening tools in the Negev.