

1: Articles | Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) | NCBDDD | CDC

The purpose of this study was to explore the relationship between the quality of life (QOL) and feeling of mothers of a child with autism. The QOL instrument was also used. A total of participants completed all questionnaires, which included the Taiwan version of the WHOQOLâ€”BREF. A final.

The scientific findings for all SEED studies published to date are summarized below. Many additional studies are underway. We will provide summaries of those studies in the future. These reports provide foundational information about SEED for other researchers, policymakers, and clinicians. These study findings also inform researchers on possible ways to improve participation in other future studies. This report focuses on sociodemographic characteristics. SEED successfully enrolled a highly diverse sample of participants, including minorities and low socioeconomic status families. SEED improves upon other ASD risk factor studies in that it does not rely on administrative data sources, which lack many important details of both child development and maternal risk factors. Nor does it rely on small samples from only a few clinics or schools. SEED collects detailed data in a large and diverse sample. This provides unique opportunities for researchers to learn more about how socioeconomic characteristics relate to risk factors for ASD and health outcomes in children with ASD. This report focuses on developmental characteristics. Children enrolled in SEED are divided into four groups: This classification is based on an in-person assessment given by trained SEED clinicians. Children enrolled in the study are screened for autism symptoms by asking their mothers to respond to a brief questionnaire. Children with an indication of possible autism symptoms are assessed further during an in-person visit. Clinicians give these children a more in-depth developmental evaluation known as Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule and ask their mothers or other caregivers to participate in an interview known as the Autism Diagnostic Interview â€” Revised. SEED is one of the largest studies investigating genetic and environmental risk factors for autism spectrum disorder ASD and child health and behavioral traits associated with ASD. SEED enrolls preschool-aged children with ASD and other developmental disabilities and children from the general population in six sites across the United States. SEED methods focus on enrolling families from diverse populations in each area. A key strength of SEED includes the collection of in-depth information on child development, which allows researchers to more rigorously classify children into various study groups ASD, other developmental disabilities, or population controls than what is done in many other ASD research studies. Another key strength is the collection of comprehensive data on child health and potential risk factors for ASD. Such conditions include asthma, allergies, and autoimmune disorders such as eczema or psoriasis. Previous studies have suggested some association, but the results about specific conditions varied. The study findings show that maternal history of eczema or psoriasis and asthma are associated with both ASD and other DDs in children. Researchers also found that children with ASD are more likely to have eczema or psoriasis and allergies than children without ASD. Autoimmune disorders were not notably increased among children with other DDs. This study highlights the relationship between maternal health before and during pregnancy and ASD and other DDs, and provides researchers more information about the health of children with ASD. Previous studies of methylation in relation to ASD were limited by small sample sizes. This study is one of the largest so far to look broadly at methylation patterns in children with and without ASD. The study showed several potential differences in methylation between children in the two groups. Some of the differences suggest links to brain function, and they were consistent with results from previous studies. These findings provide clues as to how genes might be related to ASD in children. The ratio of finger lengths or digit ratio has been linked to the level of sex hormones a child was previously exposed to during pregnancy. Researchers study digit ratios because they rarely have direct measurements of fetal exposure to hormones. Study findings in boys showed that digit ratio was associated with ASD, but only in certain subgroups, such as children who had ASD and also a birth defect or genetic syndrome. This suggests the association might not have been related to hormone levels, but might instead be explained by genetics.

Study findings in girls showed that digit ratio was associated with ASD and that the association was not limited to certain subgroups of children. There has been little past study of the association between digit ratio and ASD, particularly in girls. The findings in this report suggest that hormone exposures during pregnancy might be related to ASD in girls, but many gaps remain in our understanding of the underlying reasons for this association and further research is needed.

Autism Research, This study examined whether the amount of time between pregnancies was associated with ASD or other developmental disabilities in children. The study findings show that both shorter and longer time periods between births are associated with having a child with ASD. The relationship was stronger in children with more severe ASD symptoms. Also, the association between birth spacing and ASD appeared to be unique to ASD, as there was no association found between birth spacing and having children with other developmental disabilities. The association between birth spacing and ASD was not explained by unplanned pregnancy, an underlying fertility disorder in the mother, or high blood pressure or diabetes during pregnancy. The findings from this study can help healthcare providers counsel their patients on pregnancy spacing.

Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology, This study examined associations between alcohol use just before and during pregnancy and ASD or other developmental disabilities DDs. Previous studies have shown that high levels of alcohol use in pregnancy are associated with child developmental effects, such as decreased intellectual ability, hyperactivity, learning difficulties, and autism-like traits. This study investigated whether lower levels of alcohol use before and during pregnancy were associated with developmental outcomes. Most mothers of children in SEED reported no or low levels of alcohol use before or during their pregnancies. Therefore, a main focus of the study was on alcohol use in the three months prior to pregnancy or the first month of pregnancy. The study findings show that modest alcohol use during these four months was not associated with increased risk for either ASD or other DDs. Although this study did not find an association between ASD or other DDs and modest alcohol use before or during pregnancy, women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant should continue to follow recommendations to avoid alcohol use because of other known effects on infant and child health. The study also looked at whether the mother had received any medical treatments to help her become pregnant or to prevent miscarriage during early pregnancy. The study findings show that several infertility disorders in the mother – including blocked tubes, uterine conditions such as fibroids, endometriosis, and polycystic ovarian syndrome – are associated with ASD in children. However, treatments for infertility or to prevent miscarriage were not associated with ASD. The findings from this study add to studies of other risk factors highlighting the relationship between maternal health before and during pregnancy and ASD. The findings indicate involvement of genes on the X chromosome. These findings help us better understand how ASD might differ in girls and boys.

Environmental Research, This study examined how environmental exposures, such as smoking during pregnancy, may impact gene regulation in children. Gene regulation is the process by which genes in a cell are turned on or off, and it is important for child development. Like other studies, researchers found that smoking during pregnancy affected gene regulation in children. However, while other studies have assessed these effects in children at the time of birth, the SEED sample provided an opportunity to look at gene regulation in older children. This study showed that the same pattern of gene effects was present in older children whose mothers had smoked in pregnancy as had been previously observed in newborns. These findings suggest that smoking during pregnancy may have lasting effects on child health and development. Because previous studies have shown associations between maternal asthma and allergy and ASD, researchers were particularly interested in exposure to substances that are known to trigger asthma symptoms, called asthmagens. Examples of asthmagens include latex, certain drugs and chemicals such as dyes, and some cleaning products. The findings show that mothers of children with ASD had been exposed to slightly higher levels of workplace asthmagens than mothers of children in the general population. However, the difference was small and could have been due to chance. Many gaps remain in our understanding of how environmental exposures might impact the risk for ASD, and further research is needed. SIB was much less common in children with other DDs whose mother or caregiver did not report autism-related symptoms. These

findings suggest that clinicians working with young children with DDs consider screening for SIB, even in children who do not have an ASD diagnosis. This clinical presentation in the child is characterized by average nonverbal abilities, mild language and motor delays, and increased frequency of other co-occurring developmental difficulties such as anxiety, depression, aggression, and attention difficulties. The findings reported in this study could help better our understanding of the genetics of ASD. Autism Research, This study estimated the proportion of children with ASD who had been on a gluten free diet. Children with ASD who also had gastrointestinal problems or had previously had a developmental regression were more likely to use a gluten free diet. This study demonstrates that gluten free diets are commonly used among children with ASD. More research is needed on the effectiveness of a gluten free diet in managing both gastrointestinal and behavioral symptoms related to ASD. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, This study evaluated injuries in preschool-aged children with and without ASD and other developmental disabilities DDs. Parents of children were asked whether their child had ever had an injury that required medical attention, and what types of injuries had occurred. The study findings showed that injuries were common in all groups of children and there was little difference between groups. The most common injuries were open wounds and fractures and the most common reason for injuries was falls. While there was a slight difference in injuries between children with ASD and other DDs, further study found that this was largely explained by a higher level of attention problems in the children with ASD. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders, This study used a complex computer program to assess the wide range of developmental characteristics among children with ASD. Researchers identified four subgroups of children within the ASD group: This study shows how information on developmental characteristics can be studied using advanced statistical methods to better understand ASD. SIB includes head-banging, hair-pulling, arm-biting, scratching, and hitting oneself. SIB is usually mild, but can be severe in some children and may result in injuries requiring medical care. Children with severe SIB may miss out on educational and social activities. Researchers found SIB was more common in children with low adaptive behavior scores and gastrointestinal, sleep, and behavioral problems. While its causes are not completely understood, identifying SIB early is helpful because it may reduce the likelihood of more severe SIB later. Top of Page Evaluation of Clinical and Laboratory Methods Using SEED Data In addition to research on ASD risk factors and on the developmental characteristics and health outcomes of children with ASD or other developmental disabilities, the wealth of data collected in SEED has allowed researchers to address critical gaps in our understanding of the performance of various ASD screening and assessment tools and to contribute to the development of genetic laboratory tests. Researchers often want to study the effects of certain exposures during pregnancy but may not have the exact data they need. It is rare to have biologic measurements of the chemicals women were exposed to during pregnancy. In this study, researchers used a statistical method to address the possibility that certain job coding schemes could result in errors when evaluating associations between workplace exposures and ASD. They propose a way researchers might use this method in future studies to assess, and possibly correct, exposure classification errors. Autism Research, This study assessed how the responses to a standardized questionnaire to screen for autism symptoms varied by family demographic characteristics. The study findings indicate that test performance was different in families with an indication of low versus higher socioeconomic status. These findings are important for both researchers and clinicians using autism screening questionnaires; they should be mindful that these tools might perform differently in various sociodemographic groups of children and their parents.

2: JoVE | Peer Reviewed Scientific Video Journal - Methods and Protocols

Mother's feeling, history of chronic disease and religion were related to QOL in these mothers of children with autism. The QOL instrument wa Quality of life of family caregivers of children with autism: The mother's perspective - Bih-Ching Shu,

Learn about the latest data on autism. April 30, Act early on developmental concerns to make a real difference for your child and you! You know your child best. From birth to 5 years, your child should reach milestones in how he or she plays, learns, speaks, acts and moves. April 9, The following is a list of recently published CDC-authored scientific articles on autism spectrum disorder. Prevalence and characteristics of autism spectrum disorder among children aged 8 yearsâ€”Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, 11 sites, United States, Case-control study of autism spectrum disorder. Disability and Health Journal. Prevalence and characteristics of autism spectrum disorders among 4-year-old children in the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network. Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics. Presence of an epigenetic signature of prenatal cigarette smoke exposure in childhood. Autism spectrum disorder prevalence and proximity to industrial facilities releasing arsenic, lead or mercury. Science of the Total Environment. Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. May [Epub ahead of print]. American Journal of Public Health. Trends in the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder, cerebral palsy, hearing loss, intellectual disability, and vision impairment, metropolitan atlanta, March [Epub ahead of print]. Maternal and Child Health Journal. Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities. October [Epub ahead of print]. Potential impact of DSM-5 criteria on autism spectrum disorder prevalence estimates. February [Epub ahead of print]. Population attributable fractions for three perinatal risk factors for autism spectrum disorders, and Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring ADDM Network. Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology.

3: - NLM Catalog Result

Autism and 7Q deletion: a case report / Verri AP., Pavia, Maraschio P., Destefani V. --Children with autistic disorder and their mothers / Bih-Ching Shu --The return of the reflex: considerations of the contribution of the early behaviorism to understanding, diagnosing, and preventing autism / Phil Reed --Neurotransmitters and.

4: Research Findings | Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) | NCBDDD | CDC

The aim of this study was to investigate the impact of autistic children on the mental health of their mothers. Autism is a complicated neuropsychiatric disorder.

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