

WEBINARS

Webinar: Janine LaSalle describes gene-environment interactions in autism

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Autism is a neurodevelopmental condition with complex genetic underpinnings. In addition to looking for DNA sequences specific to autism, researchers are investigating epigenetic alterations, those that occur on top of the DNA sequence. These include differences in the patterns of chemical

tags called methyl groups on DNA that environmental exposures may influence.

In this webinar, I will discuss results from DNA methylation studies of samples from the placentas of pregnant women at high risk for having a child with autism. These women participate in the MARBLES study, a longitudinal study of pregnant women who have a biological child with autism. This work could improve our understanding of the complex etiology of autism, potentially leading to improved early intervention.