

SPOTTED

Spotted around the web: Sensory discrepancy, telling gestures, JAMA boycott

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9 APRIL 2021

WEEK OF APRIL 5TH

Research roundup

- Neurofeedback can help autistic people make lasting changes to how they respond to facial expressions, according to a small study. [Autism](#)
- Self-reports of sensory sensitivities, which are common in autism, do not align with scores on sensory detection tasks, suggesting that these measures capture qualitatively different aspects of sensory perception. [Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders](#)
- Non-autistic students' attitudes toward their autistic peers can influence inclusion efforts; a new screening tool may help evaluate school anti-stigma programs. [Autism](#)
- Human cells with a deletion in the 16p11.2 chromosomal region have different gene-expression profiles than those with an intact region, providing clues to the brain changes that occur in people with this deletion, including many with autism. [Neuroscience Research](#)
- Young autistic children who use more gestures than their peers may benefit the most from early interventions focused on social-communication skills. [Autism](#)
- Caregiver ratings work well to assess autism and treatment effects in children but not in adults; a group of clinicians reviews how adult assessments might be improved. [International Journal of Psychiatry in Clinical Practice](#)
- MicroRNAs may eventually serve as biomarkers for neurodevelopmental conditions such as autism. [Journal of Molecular Neuroscience](#)
- Families with autistic children frequently miss out on services and incur care-related debt, according to a study of nearly 200 families in Ireland. [Health Policy](#)
- Three mouse models of three neurodevelopmental conditions, including two autism-related ones — 16p11.2 deletion syndrome and fragile X syndrome — show three distinct metabolic

- profiles. [eNeuro](#)
- The gender and socioeconomic status of 5-month-old infants seem to influence behavior on a visual attention task frequently used in autism research. [Infant Behavior and Development](#)
 - Preschoolers whose parents used more pointing gestures when they were younger have stronger vocabularies than those whose parents pointed less, according to a study of autistic and non-autistic children. [Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders](#)
 - Rats that were exposed to their mothers' allergic inflammation during gestation show atypical brain cells and social behaviors. [Brain, Behavior, and Immunity](#)

Science and society

- The search engine Google Scholar now checks whether papers behind a paywall comply with funders' mandates for open access. [Nature](#)
 - Some researchers have announced they will no longer submit papers to JAMA, after the journal's podcast host declared that there is no systemic racism in medicine. [BuzzFeed News](#)
 - Reminder: The Autism Science Foundation plans to hold its annual Day of Learning virtually on 22 April at no cost. [Autism Science Foundation](#)
 - Children who go to the emergency room with psychiatric issues experience longer delays in getting specialized care than they did 15 years ago. [STAT](#)
 - A new database tracks the age at which people with intellectual disabilities die. [agingcenters.org](#)
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