

SPOTTED

Spotted around the web: Week of 30 December 2019

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WEEK OF DECEMBER 30TH

Research roundup

- Autistic adolescents and young adults have many opportunities — but limited capacity — to develop skills such as decision-making and self-advocacy, caregivers report. [Autism](#)
- Identical twins with autism may differ in the severity of their traits, suggesting the condition can be modified by environmental factors. [Behavior Genetics](#)
- Psychologists often modify anxiety treatments for their autistic clients and view typical anxiety screens as insufficient. [Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders](#)
- Magnetic resonance imaging identifies differences in cell density, energy use and inflammation in the brains of autistic versus typical people. [Biological Psychiatry](#)
- Transgender adults with autism have unusually high odds of depression and anxiety. [Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders](#)

Science and society

- A Richmond, Virginia, hospital has created sensory-friendly pediatric rooms in its emergency department. [WSET](#)
- A new policy statement from the American Academy of Pediatrics warns against using gluten-free or casein-free diets to treat autistic children. [PhillyVoice](#)
- Many people who are diagnosed with autism in middle age say they feel a sense of relief at having an explanation for why they always felt different. [BBC News](#)
- A controversial saliva test for autism has become available in the United States but is not yet covered by insurance. [Syracuse.com](#)