

SPOTTED

Spotted around the web: Week of 11 February 2019

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Research roundup

- A catalog of more than 500,000 DNA sequences called regulatory elements active in mouse immune cells may provide insights into immune-system function. *Cell*
- A study documents the national and state-level prevalence of mental-health conditions, and disparities in healthcare use for these conditions, in U.S. children. *JAMA Pediatrics*
- Sleep problems are more common in young children with autism and other developmental conditions than in typical children. *Pediatrics*
- College students with autism report more problems with academics and health, as well as social rejection and bullying, than do their neurotypical peers. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*
- Detailed studies of neuron growth in early brain development in people and nonhuman primates contribute to our understanding of human evolution. *Elife*
- Researchers describe new molecular pathways underlying tuberous sclerosis complex. *PNAS*
- Alterations in an autism-linked gene called CYFIP1 lead to motor-learning problems in mice that behavioral training can ease. *Translational Psychiatry*

Science and society

- The first U.S. clinical trial of genome editing, in which researchers manipulate DNA with special enzymes, fell short of expectations. *STAT*
- Scientists in Sacramento, California, are testing how students with autism respond to different lighting in classrooms. *KCRA*
- More than 3,000 University of California staff researchers are fighting for union representation in hopes of receiving fair compensation for their work. *Science*

- A U.S. congressional bill would renew and increase support for the Autism CARES Act, which funds research, professional training and related initiatives. *Disability Scoop*
- Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, plans to expand its adult autism services, providing employment and vocational training for local community members, thanks to new philanthropic funding. *Rutgers Today*
- Health experts call on Facebook to thwart anti-vaccination messages, particularly in private groups. *The Guardian*

Autism and the arts

- Kambel Smith, a self-taught artist with autism, has gained recognition for his intricate cardboard models of historic buildings at art fairs around the United States. *The Philadelphia Inquirer*
 - A local Girl Scout group has recreated artist Brian Jobe's "Turfside Passage," an interactive sculpture, as a therapeutic device for autistic children at the University of Tennessee's Pediatric Language Clinic. *Knoxville News Sentinel*
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