Can the risk of autism be predicted from the results of newborn screening tests?

Participants must:

- Be born in California
- Be 3-6 years old
- Have a confirmed diagnosis of ASD, or be a healthy child not taking any prescription medications
- Have been born after a normal term pregnancy of 37-42 weeks
- Not have had a medical issue that required readmission to the hospital in the 1st month of life

Contact Us

For more information or to apply for enrollment in the study, contact:

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Requirements

Children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) must have a diagnosis that has been confirmed by a licensed clinician. Written documentation is not required.

UCSD Human Subjects Protection Program Project # 171940

California OSHPD Project #2018-020
A team of researchers at UCSD is conducting a study to see if the results of newborn screening tests that were done at birth can be used to predict the risk of a future diagnosis of autism.

### How Does It Work?

Newborn screening tests measure about 50 different metabolites by mass spectrometry and other methods. Small shifts in some metabolites can be normal, but when shifts in several chemicals occur together, there is a chance the pattern can be used to help scientists predict the future risk of autism.

### Enrollment and Time Commitment

The study will require about 1 hour of your time. After explaining the study and obtaining your written consent, you will be asked to complete an online questionnaire to answer some basic medical and family history questions. Topics will include questions about your pregnancy, labor and delivery, your child’s health and infection history, antibiotic use, development, and the health history of mother and father, other siblings, and close relatives.

### Risks

This is a questionnaire and medical records study so there is no risk of physical or medical injury. However, there is a small risk of loss of confidentiality. Every effort will be made to keep all records strictly confidential. No identifying information will be used in any publications or presentations of the results of this study.

### Benefits

There will be no direct benefit to the participating children or families. However, if newborn screening data can be used to predict the future risk of autism or other developmental or health risks, then there will be a significant benefit to society.

### Compensation

You will receive a $40 Amazon eGift card for participating in this study.