

The Facts About Autism & Vaccines

Plain Language



What is Autism?

Autism is something a person is born with that affects how their brain works. It can change how they understand things, talk, learn, or feel.

Each person's experience is different.



Why are more people diagnosed?

More people are being diagnosed with Autism—**1 in 36 in 2023 to 1 in 31 in 2025**—This rise may be because more people know about Autism, testing has improved, and more communities have access to diagnosis. **It shows progress in finding Autism and reminds us that more research is still needed.**



What causes Autism?

There isn't one single cause of Autism. Experts agree it is usually linked to a mix of genetics, biology, and environmental factors.



Are vaccines and Autism linked?

Vaccines do not cause Autism. Vaccines protect people from serious illness. Many large studies with millions of children around the world show no link between vaccines, including the MMR vaccine, and Autism.



If vaccines aren't linked to Autism, why did my loved one regress around 18 months old?

Autism is mostly genetic. **It affects brain development before birth, long before vaccines are given.** Early signs often appear before 18 months. The timing of regression is not fully understood, but brain growth, genetics, and environment may play a role. **More research is needed.**



Vaccine misinformation is a real problem.

Vaccines help keep our schools and communities healthy and allow businesses and daily life to run smoothly. That's why it's important to support programs that make it easier for everyone to get vaccinated.



Scan for more
information
and resources.