

McCULLOUGH FOUNDATION

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Landmark Report Finds Childhood Vaccination a Dominant Risk Factor for Autism Spectrum Disorder

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For decades, public health officials have reported a relentless rise in childhood autism. To date, the medical orthodoxy has attributed the epidemic to better screening and detection, while insisting that expanding vaccination schedules have been ruled out. Thousands of studies have explored genetic, environmental, and perinatal factors—but none have assembled all known risk factors.

Now, the **McCullough Foundation Report, *Determinants of Autism Spectrum Disorder***, delivers the most authoritative, comprehensive, and extensively referenced synthesis to date on risk factors for autism. Integrating over **300 scientific communications** across epidemiologic, clinical, and mechanistic domains, this landmark report provides an evidence-based reassessment of autism's multifactorial origins.

Among **136 studies** evaluating childhood vaccines or their components, **107 (79%)** found associations between immunization and autism or other neurodevelopmental disorders, while studies comparing vaccinated and completely unvaccinated cohorts consistently showed **better overall health outcomes among the unvaccinated**.

The report concludes that autism arises from the intersection of genetic, environmental, and iatrogenic factors—but notably **combination routine childhood vaccination early in life constitutes the most significant modifiable risk factor**, supported by convergent clinical, mechanistic, and epidemiologic evidence.

As autism prevalence climbs to more than 1 in 31 U.S. children, understanding and mitigating preventable contributors has become a pressing public health priority. Until now, discussion of autism has been dominated by commercial and ideological interests. Our report opens a new era of open scientific inquiry about this public health matter that now adversely affects all of society and threatens the future of our civilization.

Read the full report here: <https://zenodo.org/records/17451259>

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