



## High-Impact Autism Research

- Funded 22 new grants focused on finding the causes of autism and developing new interventions.
- Doubled the size of our Next Gen Sibs Study from 4 sites to 8, including 2 universities outside the US. Enrolled 42 new families in Next Gen Sibs studies.
- Launched new "Save Our Scientists" grants in response to HHS research cuts.
- Supported publication of 20 peer reviewed ASF-funded studies.

## Stakeholder Education & Services

- Our 12th Day of Learning focused on how artificial intelligence is revolutionizing autism diagnosis and treatment.
- Developed and led the "Catatonia in Autism" educational webinar series with over 2000 participants.
- Recorded and shared 26 new installments of the Autism Science Foundation Podcast, which shares new scientific findings with families.
- Produced 4th annual "Share the Stage" concert, offering neurodiverse musicians the chance to perform in a professional music venue.

## Strong Voice for Science

- Led the media response to misinformation around the causes of autism, and advocated for a separate diagnosis for "profound autism".



# 2025 ASF-Supported Publications

## WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED ABOUT THE CAUSES OF AUTISM?

1. Expanding Research on Contextual Factors in Autism Research: What Took Us So Long?  
Mailick M, Bennett T, DaWalt LS, Durkin MS, Forbes G, Howlin P, Lord C, Zaidman-Zait A, Zwaigenbaum L, Bal V, Bishop S, Chiang CH, Di Martino A, Freitag CM, Georgiades S, Hollocks M, Lai MC, Maenner M, Powell PS, Lounds Taylor J, Halladay A. | **ASF Chief Science Officer Alycia Halladay co-authored this publication.**
2. Gut microbiota dysbiosis at the interface of neuropsychiatric disorders and their dermatological comorbidities  
Hawkins B, Montgomery M, Bokotoa G, Santoyo M, Giron E, Eltokhi A. | **ASF supported this research through a Profound Autism Pilot Grant to Ahmed Eltokhi.**
3. Molecular and Genetic Mechanisms in Autism Spectrum Disorder  
Pruitt A, Gupta AR, Hoffman EJ | **ASF supported this research through a Pre-Doctoral Training Award to April Pruitt.**
4. Single-cell technology grows up: Leveraging high-resolution omics approaches to understand neurodevelopmental disorders  
Dougherty JD, Sarafinovska S, Chaturvadi SM, Law TE, Akinwe TM, Gabel HW. | **ASF supported this research through a Pre-Doctoral Training Award to Simona Sarafinovska.**
5. Mutations of schizophrenia risk gene SETD1A dysregulate synaptic function in human neurons  
Su X, Zhang H, Hong Y, Yang Q, Wang L, Le T, Liu J, Cheruvu L, Labour E, Zhang S, Mendez-Moldonado K, Kreimer A, Song H, Ming GL, Duan J, Pang ZP. | **ASF supported this research through a Pre-Doctoral Training Award to Xiao Su.**

## WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED ABOUT SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH AUTISM?

6. Healthy Engagement in Autism Research Dialogue: A Pilot Approach to Community Focused Research  
Van der Merwe C, Life B, Phan JM, Halladay A. | **ASF Chief Science Officer Alycia Halladay co-authored this publication.**
7. Scientists Can Do Better Including Those With Intellectual Disability in Clinical Trials  
Halladay A | **ASF Chief Science Officer Alycia Halladay authored this publication.**
8. Telehealth Pilot Study of the Effects of a Naturalistic Developmental Behavioral Intervention on Child Social Communication Outcomes in a Community Mental Health System  
Greatorex J, Straiton-Webster D, Ingersoll B. | **ASF supported this research through an Undergraduate Summer Research Award to Jessie Greatorex**
9. Brief Report: Structured and Unstructured Social Opportunities for Autistic Students in Elementary Educational Settings  
Tagavi DM, Kim ES, Locke J. | **ASF supported this research through an Early Career Award to Jill Locke.**

## WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED ABOUT INTERVENTIONS FOR AUTISM?

10. Identifying Daily Living Skills From Childhood and Adolescence Predictive of Adult Outcomes in a Longitudinal Study of Autism and Related Developmental Conditions  
Clarke EB, Lord C. | **ASF supported this research through a Post-Doctoral Training Award to Elaine Clarke.**
11. What About Life Skills? Tailoring Interventions for Autism and Beyond  
Clarke EB, Duncan A, Lord C | **ASF supported this research through a Post-Doctoral Training Award to Elaine Clarke.**
12. Adults on the autism spectrum differ from neurotypical peers when self-generating but not passively-experiencing somatosensation: a high-density electrophysiological (EEG) mapping and virtual reality study  
Isenstein EL, Freedman EG, Rico GA, Brown Z, Tadin D, Foxe JJ. | **ASF supported this research through a Pre-Doctoral Training Award to Emily Isenstein.**
13. The developing visual system: A building block on the path to autism  
Girault, JB. | **ASF supported this research through the Baby Siblings Research Consortium.**

## WHAT NEW TREATMENTS FOR AUTISM ARE BEING DEVELOPED?

14. Validating the RISE Communication Play Protocol as a Diagnostic Tool for Autism in Early Childhood: A Pilot Study  
Dai YG, Tagavi DM, Stone WL, Carter AS. | **ASF supported this research through an Accelerator Award to Yael Dai and Diana Tagavi.**
15. CRISPR activation for SCN2A-related neurodevelopmental disorders  
Tamura S, Nelson AD, Spratt PWE, Hamada EC, Zhou X, Kyoung H, Li Z, Arnould C, Barskyi V, Krupkin B, Young K, Zhao J, Holden SS, Sahagun A, Keeshen CM, Lu C, Ben-Shalom R, Taloma SE, Schamiloglu S, Li YC, Min L, Jenkins PM, Pan JQ, Paz JT, Sanders SJ, Matharu N, Ahituv N, Bender KJ. | **ASF supported this research through a Pre-Doctoral Training Award to Serena Tamura**
16. The Impact of Refractive Surgery on Adaptive Behavior in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Spectacle Nonadherence: A Pilot Study  
Kwok A, Pruitt JR, Strelnikov J, Zdonczyk A, Culican S, Tyschsen L, Gordon MO, Marrus N, Todorov A, Reynolds M. | **ASF supported this research through a Profound Autism Pilot Grant to Margaret Reynolds.**

## WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED ABOUT SEX DIFFERENCES IN AUTISM?

17. Sex-Related Measurement Bias in Autism Spectrum Disorder Symptoms in the Baby Siblings Research Consortium  
Burrows C, Sung S, Zheng S, Young GS, Charman T, Klaiman C, Klin A, Marrus N, Ozonoff S, Piven J, Robins DL, Schmidt RJ, Schwichtenberg AJ, Webb SJ, Zwaigenbaum L, Carver LJ, Chawarska K, Curtin S, Jeste SS, Iverson JM, Landa RJ, Messinger DS, Roberts JE, Stone WL, Tager-Flusberg H, Esler AN, Miller M, Bishop SL, Elison JT. | **ASF supported this research through the Baby Siblings Research Consortium.**
18. The Role of Gender and Strong Interests in Self-Reported Camouflaging of Autistic Adults  
Putnam O, Swisher M, McFayden T, Chan D, Harrop C. | **ASF supported this research through a Pre-Doctoral Training Award to Orla Putnam.**

## WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED ABOUT THE LIFE COURSE OF PEOPLE WITH AUTISM?

19. Autism at 30: Conceptualizations for adult research and clinical practice  
Clarke EB, Singer H, Schiltz H, Lord C. | **ASF supported this research through a Post-Doctoral Training Award to Elaine Clarke.**
20. Methodological challenges and opportunities when studying the course of autism  
Bal VH, Szatmari P, Georgiades S, Gentiles SJ, Girault J, Howlin P, Lai MC, Carter Leno V, Lord C, Madgett K, Sheinkopf SJ, Simonoff E, Williams ZJ, Zwaigenbaum L, Halladay A. | **ASF Chief Science Officer Alycia Halladay co-authored this publication.**