Today’s piece was prepared by Jen Case, MD, based on a Time Magazine article [This Is How Much of Autism is Genetic](http://time.com/4956316/how-much-of-autism-is-genetic/)

This article describes new results [published in JAMA](http://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2654804) from Sven Sandin, an assistant professor of psychiatry at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai regarding the percent of genetic contribution in the development of autism, following a previous study but with new parameters for statistical evaluation of siblings who develop autism, noting the current study to have more accurate measurement of the true genetic component. Previously this data set reported a 93% contribution but with the new analysis that looks at siblings diagnosed over an expanded time frame rather than those diagnosed at the same time point.

This article presented new results in a balanced manner by demonstrating previous results and the reasons for adjusting how the original data set was analyzed. It fails to provide any critical commentary and seems to sell the results as concrete in the title and only later alludes to the fact that the new results of 83% continues to lie within other reported genetic contribution estimations. A topic unaddressed in the article is how valid our results are when we readjust how data is analyzed to meet the expected results. While this may not be a concern for this study itself it would present a more balanced analysis of the results.

**RESOURCES ON GENETICS OF AUTISM:**

[Autism Science Foundation](http://www.autismsciencefoundation.org/) Research & info; Genetics emphasis; Endorses routine vaccinations, *Genetics of Autism*

[Genetics of Autism: **Videos**](http://wn.com/Genetics_of_Autism) Several videos (brief and long); various professionals (Matthew State, Eric Courchesne, etc.)

[Spark Autism Study](https://sparkforautism.org/portal/page/autism-research/) *SPARK will provide researchers with medical and genetic information from tens of thousands of individuals and families affected by autism. An ongoing data collection through saliva of those diagnosed with autism.*

And that’s today’s Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics: IN THE NEWS!