

SPOTTED

Spotted around the web: Week of 18 November 2019

BY JILL ADAMS

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WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18TH

Research roundup

- Adults with neurodevelopmental conditions, including autism, have an elevated risk of bone fractures. *Bone*
- A review of studies shows no good evidence for cannabis use in autism, but more research is needed. *BMC Psychiatry*
- Researchers propose guidelines for analyzing how rare gene variants contribute to complex traits. *Nature Reviews Genetics*
- Autism traits correlate with emotional eating in girls but not boys. *Appetite*
- Three in four women who were diagnosed with autism or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder as children have chronic pain, according to a small study. *Journal of Pain Research*
- Researchers have updated a project called the Monarch Initiative, which aims to integrate genes and their biological effects across species. *Nucleic Acids Research*
- A review of studies has found a higher prevalence of autism in people with gender dysphoria than in the general population. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*
- Genes implicated in both autism and schizophrenia appear to play a role in how the brain consumes energy. *Molecular Psychiatry*

Science and society

- The U.S. National Institutes of Health has drafted a new policy requiring grantees to submit a detailed plan for sharing their data with others. *Science*
- The majority of Facebook ads promoting anti-vaccination messages come from two organizations. *The Guardian*

- The infamous 1998 paper by Andrew Wakefield that falsely linked vaccines and autism remains one of the most highly cited retracted papers ever; the majority of references are negative. [*Retraction Watch*](#)
- Women who submit papers to the Royal Society of Chemistry journals are more likely to receive rejections than men are. [*Nature*](#)
- Mesa, Arizona, is the first U.S. city to be designated an Autism Certified City. [*Daily Independent*](#)
- Dance and movement may improve autistic children's communication skills. [*The New York Times*](#)
- A New York parent is lobbying to add a marker on driver licenses indicating that a holder has autism. [*ABC7*](#)
- Entrepreneur Elon Musk claims that an artificial-intelligence chip implanted into people's brains could "solve" autism and other brain "diseases." [*Business Insider*](#)
- A ballot initiative to fund a stem-cell institute in California will require the institute to dedicate half its funds to brain conditions such as autism, among other restrictions. [*Science*](#)

Autism and the arts

- Kim Diehnelt, a professional conductor with autism, has assumed leadership of Vermont's Me2/Burlington orchestra. [*Seven Days*](#)
- A 10-year-old autistic painter, Kanye Tagbo-Okeke, had a week-long solo art show in Lagos, Nigeria, that ended Sunday. [*The Guardian Nigeria*](#)

Funding news

- The International Society for Autism Research is providing 10 travel awards to autistic presenters for its 2020 meeting in Seattle, Washington. [*Twitter*](#)
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