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The article, Scientists discover how dozens of genes may contribute to autism, from the *Washington Post* written by Mark Johnson is about exactly what the title entails. Over the last decade, much research has been done about autism and its causes. Recently Stanford University discovered dozens of genes that could lead to Autism. According to the CDC autism is a developmental disability caused by differences in the brain. This research can one day help researchers create treatments for brain development impairments. The study done at Stanford is working with a theory that states a cause of autism could be a disruption of nerve cells in the brain's cerebral cortex. The professor who led this study, Sergiu Pasca, had a team of researchers that tested 425 genes that have previously been linked to neurodevelopmental disorders, genes linked to autism were identified in the study. Instead of observing what happens to all 425 genes if one is taken out in a petri dish each time, the team of researchers used a technique that allowed them to test all of the genes at once. Using CRISPR they were able to create different cells and each cell was missing one of the different 425 genes. The cells that inhibit the firing from others would glow green. The clump of cells functions like the brain's cerebral cortex, once the interneurons were formed the researchers were able to examine the genetic profile of the cells. They were looking for two defects caused by the gene which are failure to make interneurons and the failure of interneurons going to the cerebral cortex. This project can one day lead to researchers being able to develop a treatment based on the genetic profile of the individual. It is important to remember that genes alone are not the cause of autism, other factors contribute

This article is allowing people who aren't well versed in the science world to understand the major breakthroughs that are happening in science. Reading an academic journal can be really difficult especially for somebody who doesn't know much about the ins and outs of the science world. This writing Mark Johnson has been covering topics in sciences for over 20 years. He is able to make wordy and confusing information clearer for the reader. Knowing how the medical field is advancing is so important for everybody to know. This article is telling the majority population of how different genes have an impact on our body and development and can cause something common like Autism. This can also be reassuring for people knowing that research is happening and at some point there will be a better way to diagnose and treat development disabilities.

Work Cited

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