



Major Autism Study Planned

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(Baltimore, MD) -- A study to examine the early causes of autism will involve researchers from Johns Hopkins University and Kennedy Krieger Institute.

For the study, 12-hundred pregnant women who already have a child with autism will be observed over the course of their pregnancy and their baby's first three years.

The study will examine both genetic and environmental factors in autism, a neurobiological disorder that affects one in 150 children nationwide.

Couples with one autistic child are said to be at much greater risk of having a second child with the disorder.

The study is spearheaded by the National Institutes of Health and also will include research centers in California and Philadelphia.

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