



**Why does autism happen?**

**Why is it so different in each person?**

**We all have questions, and we all want answers.**

When you join SPARK, you provide researchers with important information that will lead to new findings.

**Join us. Together, we can find answers for autism.**



Kennedy Krieger Institute

[www.SPARKforAutism.org/KKI](http://www.SPARKforAutism.org/KKI)

**Kennedy Krieger Institute**

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@SPARKforAutism

SPARK: Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research for Knowledge  
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SPARK Primary Investigator: Wendy Chung, MD, PhD  
Protocol Number: 20151664  
Western Institutional Review Board



**Why does autism research need your DNA?**



Kennedy Krieger Institute

## What is SPARK?

We are a growing community of individuals, families, and researchers on a mission to speed up the understanding of autism. Our aims are to:

- Collect DNA and information through surveys from **50,000 people with autism** and both of their parents.
- Share that data with **qualified researchers**.
- **Make breakthroughs** that were never before possible.
- **Return our findings** to you.



## Why Join?

Your DNA could hold the answer that sparks the next genetic discovery for autism. The more families who join, the more that can be discovered. You will be able to:

- Find possible **genetic causes of autism** in your own family.
- Power future autism research for **years to come**.
- Join other autism **research studies**.
- **Get updates** on the latest autism research.

- ✓ **We take your privacy seriously.**
- ✓ **There is no cost to participate.**
- ✓ **Enrollment is entirely online.**

## Joining is Simple.

Individuals with a professional diagnosis of autism and their families are welcome.



### STEP 1

Create an account online at:  
**SPARKforAutism.org/KKI**



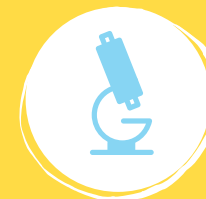
### STEP 2

Invite family members.



### STEP 3

Complete and return saliva kits for DNA analysis.



### STEP 4

Participate in new research studies.