AUTISM

Tracking the development of children is helping to define autism and the factors at play (page S7).

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Complex disorder
Awareness, funding and research into autism are on the rise

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Searching for answers
Multidisciplinary collaborations aim to solve autism's complexity

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The first steps
Studying the siblings of children with autism points to better detection

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Life lessons
Research is maturing along with its participants

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Redefining autism
Draft diagnostic guidelines are a matter of contention

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Clinicians are eager for new drugs developed specially to treat the symptoms of autism

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Imaging autism
Nicholas Lange cautions against using brain scans to diagnose autism before the underlying biology is understood

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Diverse diagnostics
Assessing a child's behaviour to diagnose autism can be done only in the context of cultural norms

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Brain scans need a rethink
Evidence for a leading theory on the causes of autism is flawed, say Ben Deen and Kevin Pelphrey

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- The Autism Enigma. Nature and several sister journals publish news and comment on the efforts to understand autism:
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