

Question	Answer(s)
<p>I have a question regarding the latest suggestion that Valproic acid in epilepsy medication might be linked to autism.</p>	<p>Specifically during pregnancy, yes some evidence of heightened 'risk'. Various studies have reported a link, and also animal models linking valproate to autism. Wouldn't say it's proven but not as easy to dismiss as most potential causes.</p> <p>https://www.spectrumnews.org/news/epilepsy-drugs-pose-risks-developing-brains-study-suggests/</p>
<p>Hi, I agree with the statement of cost reduction based on adequate support at the right time delivered by well-trained professional, however, is there a study that measured it in actual £? Could you share the title so I could find it? Thank you.</p>	<p>The Autism Dividend report is the one I referred to:</p> <p>https://nationalautistictaskforce.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/autism-dividend-report.pdf</p>
<p>hi, just following up from my earlier question about covid impact for autistic parents. i have indeed already read the left stranded report, and it talks about families' impact in terms of a family make-up of: neurotypical parents with autistic children; it only mentions autistic adults when talking about social care and community care. I feel like parents who are themselves autistic are left out of this. The impact on our families and on ourselves as individuals has been doubly significant, as we are impacted, our ability to parent is impacted, our autistic and NT children are impacted doubly because their school life has changed and their parent is increasingly anxious, etc. Autistic parents may have had little or no contact with social care before covid and will be seen as low/no care needs - if they are even on anyone's radar. Because of Covid, they are now drowning, even if they have no autistic children and only have NT children. This report focusses on families where children are autistic.</p> <p>Carol – do you know of any research that has been done / is planned around this?</p>	<p>Answer from the NAS Head of research, monitoring and evaluation:</p> <p>No, we are not aware of anything specifically on that.</p> <p>Our national COVID-19 survey respondents included around 250 people who are both autistic and a parent/carer of an autistic family member. Obviously that's a specific subset of autistic parents. Not had chance yet to see if their answers differed significantly but will add to our analysis plans.</p>