

THE STORY BEHIND THE DIAGNOSIS

Understanding autism through genetics, care, and connection



START WITH THE KEY POINT

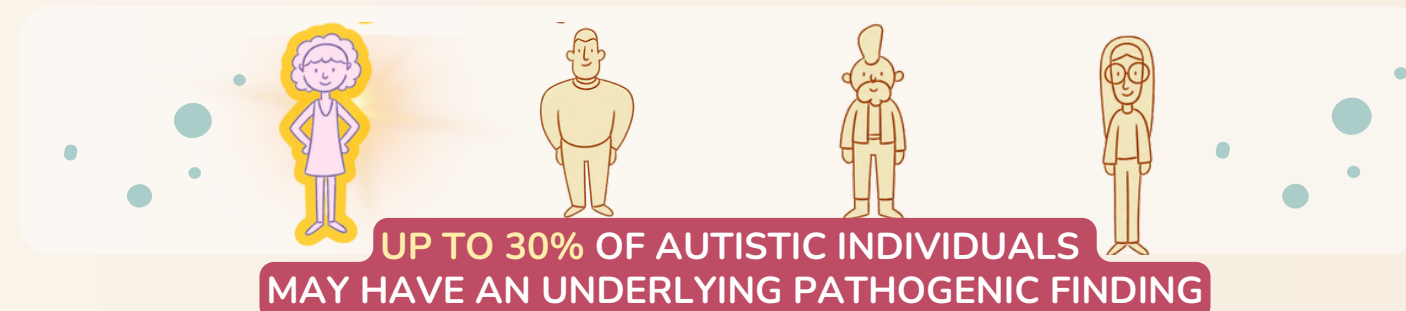


- Autism is diagnosed clinically
- Genetic testing does not diagnose autism
- Genetic testing should be part of the clinical pathway after a clinical diagnosis of autism

 **STANDARD OF CARE:** Genetic testing is recommended as part of autism care

WHAT CAN GENETICS TELL US?

Genetics can help provide answers



That information can help explain the diagnosis and support more personalized care

THE GAP IN ALBERTA

Many individuals still miss out



Only 10% of Albertans

with autism have ever received standard of care genetic testing

WHY COULD GENETIC TESTING MATTER?

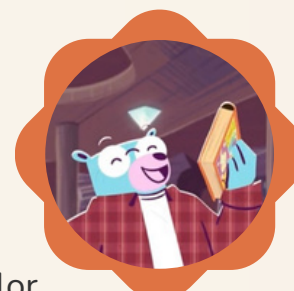
-  Find an underlying explanation
-  Identify associated health risks
-  Connect families to resources and community
-  Guide medical care and monitoring
-  Support informed family planning and future decisions

HOW TO START THE CONVERSATION

A few simple steps can open the door

Talk to your:

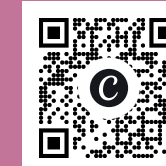
- Paediatrician
- Family doctor
- Psychiatrist
- Developmental specialist
- Genetic counsellor
- Another clinician involved in autism care



You can ask:

- Could you help me understand the process and expectations so that I can decide what's best for me based on scientific evidence and my values and preferences?
- Would you help me include genetic testing as part of our care plan?
- Which tests are recommended?
- Could you order these tests for me directly, or refer me to a genetic counsellor for this?

THERE'S ALWAYS MORE TO DISCOVER



Explore autism, genetics, and genetic testing with Bo and DiNA in the PRISMA Library of Life

www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXvd_GEdNCE