Understanding Your Negative AutismNext Genetic Test Result

INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS

Result	The genetic testing done for you or your family member did not find any pathogenic or likely pathogenic variants (changes in a gene that are disease-causing or likely to be disease-causing) in genes that cause an autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
Genes and Inheritance	Genes are instructions for how our bodies work and develop. Everyone has two copies of each gene, one from each parent. Changes in certain genes can cause ASD and may be passed down in families or be brand new in the person who has an ASD. Even if there is no history of ASD in your family, it can still be caused by a change in a gene. Also, some ASDs are not caused by changes in a gene.
Diagnosis	This testing does not change you or your family member's diagnosis of an ASD. If you or your family member has been diagnosed with an ASD, that remains the same. Talk with your healthcare provider to learn more about whether you or your family member might need any additional genetic testing.
Management Options	Treatment options can include: medication, speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, behavioral intervention, educational support/assistance, and family counseling and support. Talk to your healthcare provider about which treatment options may be helpful for you or your family member.
Resources	• Autism Society autism-society.org • Autism Speaks autismspeaks.org • National Autism Association nationalautismassociation.org • Talk About Curing Autism tacanow.org • National Society of Genetic Counselors nsgc.org • Canadian Association of Genetic Counsellors cagc-accg.ca

Please discuss this information with your healthcare provider. The field of genetics is continuously changing, so updates related to your genetic testing result, medical recommendations, and/or potential treatments may be available over time. This information is not meant to replace a discussion with a healthcare provider, and should not be considered or interpreted as medical advice.