

Low vitamin D levels at birth linked to higher autism risk

November 29 2017



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

Low vitamin D levels at birth were associated with an increased risk of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) at the age of 3 years in a recent *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research* study.

In the study of 27,940 newborns in China, 310 were diagnosed with ASDs at 3 years of age, with a prevalence of 1.11 percent. When the 310 children with ASDs were compared with 1,240 [control subjects](#), the risk of ASDs was significantly increased in each of the three lower quartiles of vitamin D level at birth, when compared with the highest quartile: an increased risk of ASDs by 260 percent in the lowest quartile, 150 percent in the second quartile, and 90 percent in the third quartile.

"Neonatal vitamin D status was significantly associated with the risk of ASDs and [intellectual disability](#)," said senior author Dr. Yuan-Lin Zheng.

More information: Dong-Mei Wu et al, Relationship Between Neonatal Vitamin D at Birth and Risk of Autism Spectrum Disorders: the NBSIB Study, *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research* (2017). [DOI: 10.1002/jbmr.3326](#)

Provided by Wiley

Citation: Low vitamin D levels at birth linked to higher autism risk (2017, November 29) retrieved 21 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-11-vitamin-d-birth-linked-higher.html>

| |
|--|
| <p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p> |
|--|