

## AUTISM AND ADHD IN YOUNGER SIBLINGS

#### WHAT ARE AUTISM AND ADHD?

- Autistic people communicate differently, have repetitive behaviors, and passionate interests
- People with ADHD may interrupt conversations and have trouble focusing and waiting their turn

### FAMILY LIKELIHOOD FOR AUTISM AND ADHD

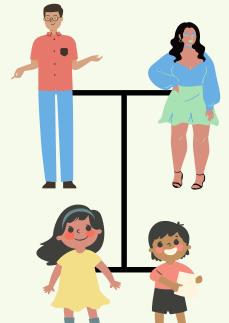
- A 2018 study by Meghan Miller and colleagues set out to understand the likelihood that younger siblings of children with autism or ADHD would be diagnosed with either condition
- There had been no prior studies about the rates of ADHD in younger siblings

# ARE YOUNGER SIBLINGS OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM OR ADHD MORE LIKELY TO HAVE EITHER OF THESE CONDITIONS, AS COMPARED TO CHILDREN WITHOUT A FAMILY HISTORY?

#### **METHODS**

Diagnoses of autism and ADHD were collected from medical records





Autism or ADHD Diagnosis

#### **RESULTS**

Younger siblings of autistic children

30X h

more likely to have autism\*

3.7X

more likely to have ADHD\*

Younger siblings of children with ADHD

4X

more likely to have autism\*

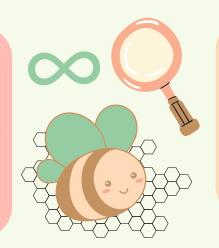
13X

more likely to have ADHD\*

\*Compared to children without a family history of either condition

#### **IMPORTANCE**

- Doctors and parents should watch children with a family history more closely for signs of both conditions
- Early identification will help children get support sooner



#### **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

More research on younger siblings of children with autism and ADHD is needed to better understand how the conditions overlap and become different from each other early in life

