#### Reducing the Symptoms of Autism by

### Treating Your Family's Home Environment

Peter Sullivan, MS



# Our Family's Story





- Stacy and Peter with Max (4) and Jack (6)
- Goal just wanted the kids to reach their potential.

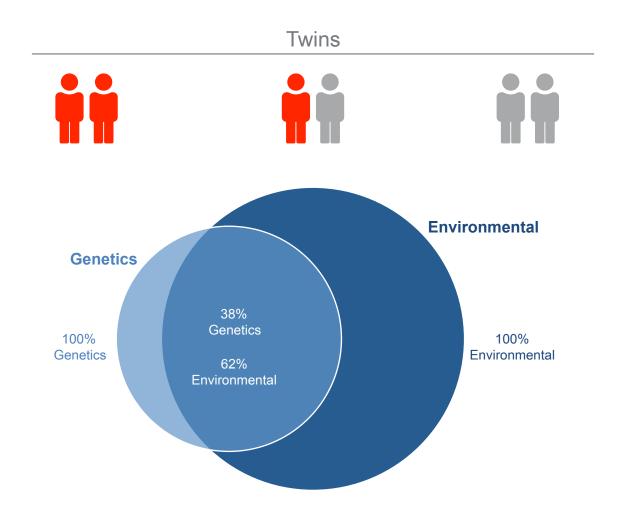


#### Introduction

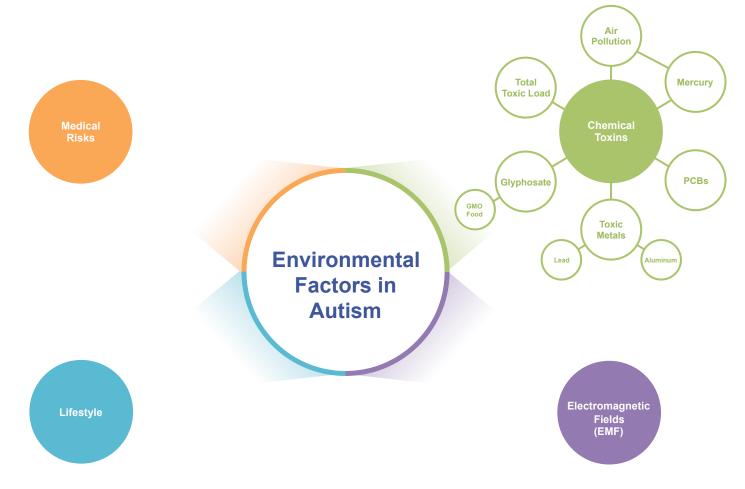
- Family 2 boys on the spectrum
  - My health impacted by the same factors as the boys
- Silicon Valley troubleshooting, eng & design
- Sensory friendly & healthy home work for 18 years
- Funding autism and environmental health 13 years
- Focus on what you can do now in your home
  - Overview map, concepts, sequence & references
  - Lots of info/blame free short discussion breaks



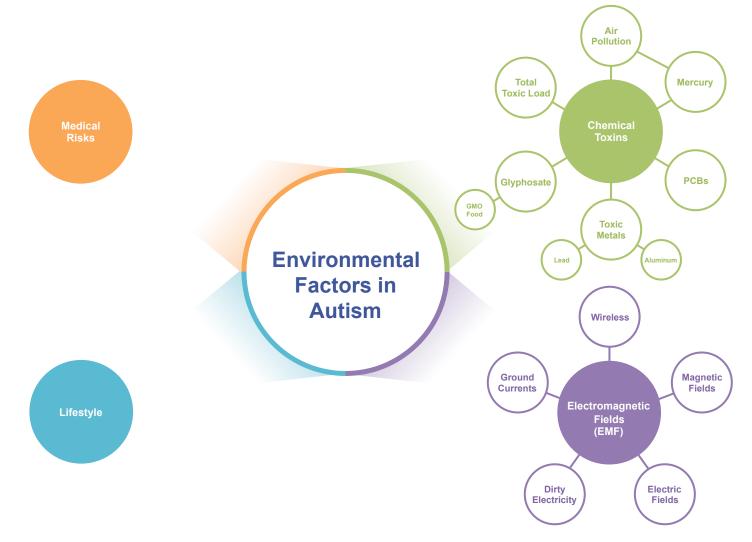
## Autism: Genetics & Environment







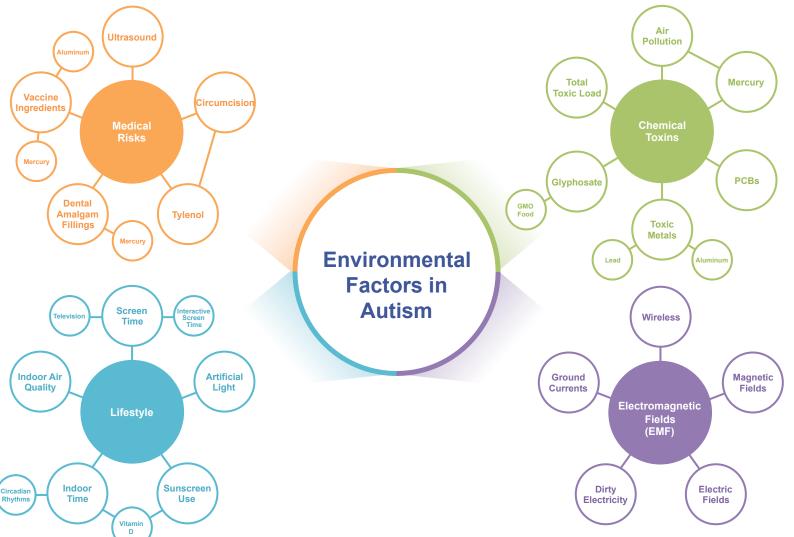




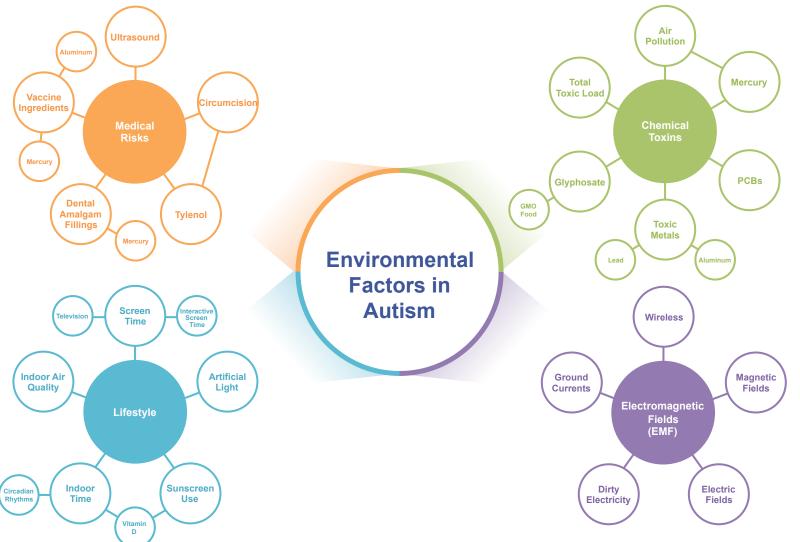














# **Total Load Theory**

#### **BODY**

- Balanced pH
- Oxygen level
- Melatonin
- Glutathione
- Vitamin D
- Poor sleep
- Toxins \*
- Low energy
- Low immune
- Infections

- Healthy gut
- Brainwayes
- Synchronization
- Cellular voltage

- Acidic pH
  - Inflammation
  - Low melatonin
  - Oxidation
  - Spinal alignment

#### **Thriving**

Add positive factors Adaptive response



#### Non-adaptive Response

Fight Flight Freeze Faint

Surviving

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

- Clean air
- Clean water
- Organic food
- Calm
- Safety
- Love
- Time in nature

- EMF \*
- Toxins \*
- Noise
- Pollution \*

- GMOs \*
- MSG
- Light flicker
- Physical threats



# Fight or Flight Mode

- Cell Danger Mode
  - Cell membranes closed off
- Detox is de-prioritized
- Cranial sacral pump can be turned off
  - Sleep cleanup glial/lymphatic function
- Polyvagal theory: freeze, faint, etc...
  - Sympathetic: response to stress/inflammation
    - Dr. Victoria Dunckley: Energy release
  - Parasympathetic: rest, digest, detox, repair, grow



### **Short Discussion Break**

- Share one thing that has worked to calm your child.
- 2 minutes



# 9 Areas Worth Looking at

- ☐ Air quality
- Constant wireless sources
- Water
- ☐ Lighting (UV, IR)
- ☐ Electromagnetic fields & noise
- ☐ Screen time
- ☐ Food
- ☐ Personal care products & cleaning products
- ☐ Herbicides & pesticides



# Air Quality - AQI

- Freeways (309m, 9/10<sup>th</sup> mile)
- Clean room study (Second Wind)
- Mold
- Artificial fragrances (scented candles, fabric softener, perfumes and colognes, etc.) #StinkMovie
- VOCs (paint, plastics, carpet, new car smell)
- Household cleaning products
- Masking 5 days for nose to "recover"
- Co2 levels (>600ppm cognitive impact / outside 400ppm)
- Solutions: Co2 monitor, air filters, open windows, HRV



### Constant Wireless Sources

- Off & away minimally, off at night
  - Baby monitor
  - Cordless phone base station
  - Wi-Fi
  - Phones in airplane mode at night
    - Ideally, out of bedroom
  - Smart meters opt out
- Wireless: A Key Piece of the Autism Puzzle (2016)



# Water Quality

- Lead
- Hexavalent chromium
- Chlorine/chloramine
- Fluoride (ages 2-12) thyroid & neurotoxic impacts
- pH more alkaline
- ORP (oxygen reduction potential rusting)
- Solutions: Zero Water, Berkey, shower/bath filters



# **Light Quality**

- Diffuse
- Flicker use slow motion on cell phone to see
- Color temp/spectrum warm LuxMeterPlus
- CRI color render index
- Off natural light
- Circadian rhythms sunlight & moonlight
  - Minimize full spectrum & blue light at night
  - Solutions: f.lux and Night Shift mode for screens



# Electromagnetic Fields (EMF)

- Magnetic fields
  - Electric panel, clock radio, transformers
- Electric fields
  - Electric light cords near beds even when off
- Electrical noise (dirty electricity)
- Ground currents
- Trial solution: turn off circuit breaker to bedroom



#### Screen Time

- Content fear triggers
- Scene changes
- Distraction & attention
- Color temp (blue light & stim/melatonin)
- Interactive screen time wireless & EMF exposure
- Overstimulation and energy release
- Dr. Victoria Dunckley: Reset Your Child's Brain Book
  - Solutions: 28-day screen fasts and/or limits



# **Food Quality**

- Food allergies & sensitivities
- Consider organic & non-GMO
  - Reduce glyphosate (Round-up) exposure
- Reduce or eliminate inflammatory foods
  - Processed foods, MSG, fried foods, sugar
- No large fish: swordfish, tuna (mercury)
- Healthy fats, minerals, antioxidants



#### Personal Care Products

- Skin transdermal absorption
- Scents: air quality & masking (Stink Movie)
- EWG.org consumer product guides
  - Personal care products, cosmetics, sunscreens
- Clear Light Ventures recommendations
  - Clv.us/safe-home-products



#### Herbicides & Pesticides

- Avoid/minimize
  - Bug sprays, flea bombs, etc.
- Round-up
  - Also registered as an antibiotic
- Solutions
  - Ask family members/gardeners not to spray
  - Research non-toxic herbicide & pest control



#### **Short Discussion Break**

- Share one thing from the areas and items we just discussed that you might consider changing in your home.
- 2 minutes



## Recovery Checklist

- ☐ Safe environment
- ☐ Calm body (feel safe balanced nervous system)
- ☐ Circadian rhythms (sync & lower inflammation)
- ☐ Cranial pump & rhythm (more efficient cleaning)
- ☐ Sleep well
- □ Reduce inflammatory overload
- Now we can repair, detox, grow, and be social



# Today



- Jack (20) is at UC Berkeley studying computer science
- Max (17) is in his school's theater company, honor roll, APs
- I'm back to a healthy weight and sleeping well
- Autism is a distant memory—all is well



## The Range of What You Can Expect

- Child calms & sleeps in
- Improved sleep
- Rapid improvement in some cases (~10%)
- Slow, steady improvement
- Sometimes regression (detox)
- Conflict with spouse, child, or family
- May see no change



#### Resources

- Clear Light Ventures
  - clv.us/autism-home (slides and scientific references)
  - clv.us/safe-home-products
  - clearlightventures.com (clv.us)
  - facebook.com/groups/AutismEMF
- Building Biology Environmental Consultants (hbelc.org)
- American Association of Environmental Medicine (**aaem**.org)

