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Parent-Report vs. Child-Report of Specific Anxiety in Siblings of Children with Autism: Do Parents Know What their Children Worry About

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Poster Presentation 28

PARENT-REPORT VS. CHILD-REPORT OF SPECIFIC ANXIETY IN
SIBLINGS OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM: DO PARENTS KNOW WHAT
THEIR CHILDREN WORRY ABOUT

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This project explores anxiety and specific autism-related worries of children who have a sibling diagnosed with autism. There is clinical evidence pertinent to this topic but little published empirical research. In addition, this project explores whether or not the parent's perception of their child's fears is correlated with the fears reported by the child. Participants were recruited mainly through local support groups for parents of children with autism. The siblings studied are between the ages of six and thirteen. Each child was given a standardized measure of general anxiety in addition to a questionnaire created for this study and designed to measure fears specific to siblings of children with autism. Parents were asked to fill out an assessment of their child's general anxiety, autism worries, and internalizing/externalizing problems.