

Eric Courchesne is Professor of Neurosciences in the School of Medicine at the University of California San Diego and Co-Director of the UC San Diego Autism Center of Excellence. He has introduced the new concept of ASD Living Biology, a new approach for discovering fetal brain developmental origins and explanations of ASD in the individual child. His work shows ASD begins in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> trimesters and is due to progressive disruption of multiple fetal stages in brain development. His studies have identified genomic, molecular, cellular, and neural defects that lead to early language and social symptoms in autism and predict clinical outcome. His work is internationally recognized. Dr. Courchesne's studies integrate clinical, brain imaging, developmental, cellular, genetic and genomic findings that lead to a better understanding of the prenatal origins of autism. His team has also identified early diagnostic and outcome biomarkers. From this work his team aims to identify treatments specific to biological subtypes. Dr. Courchesne has published over 200 articles in major journals such as JAMA, Science, Neuron, Molecular Psychiatry, Nature Neuroscience, and the New England Journal of Medicine.