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Research to consider autism dietary treatment. 10/02/2006. ABC News Online

[This is the print version of story <http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200602/s1566739.htm>]

Last Update: Friday, February 10, 2006. 10:38am (AEDT)

Research to consider autism dietary treatment

Newcastle University researchers believe autism could eventually be treated through dietary changes if their study into the condition is successful.

The study, examining the role of vitamin B12 in autism, is yet to start and is still in need of more participants.

That has prompted researchers to issue a public plea for volunteers.

Dr Michelle Adams says the study will focus on whether autistic children have different types of genes involved in the metabolism of the vitamin.

"One of the questions we have is are autistic children unable to use certain forms of vitamin B12 and if they use certain forms of this vitamin B12, does it affect their neurological development," she said.

"So the outcome of this study, if successful, could lead to using a dietary intervention to help either prevent the onset of autism or perhaps reduce the symptoms of autism."

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