

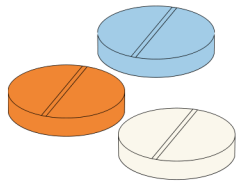
# VULNERABILITY TIMELINE

## Acetaminophen effects during pregnancy, and on babies and children

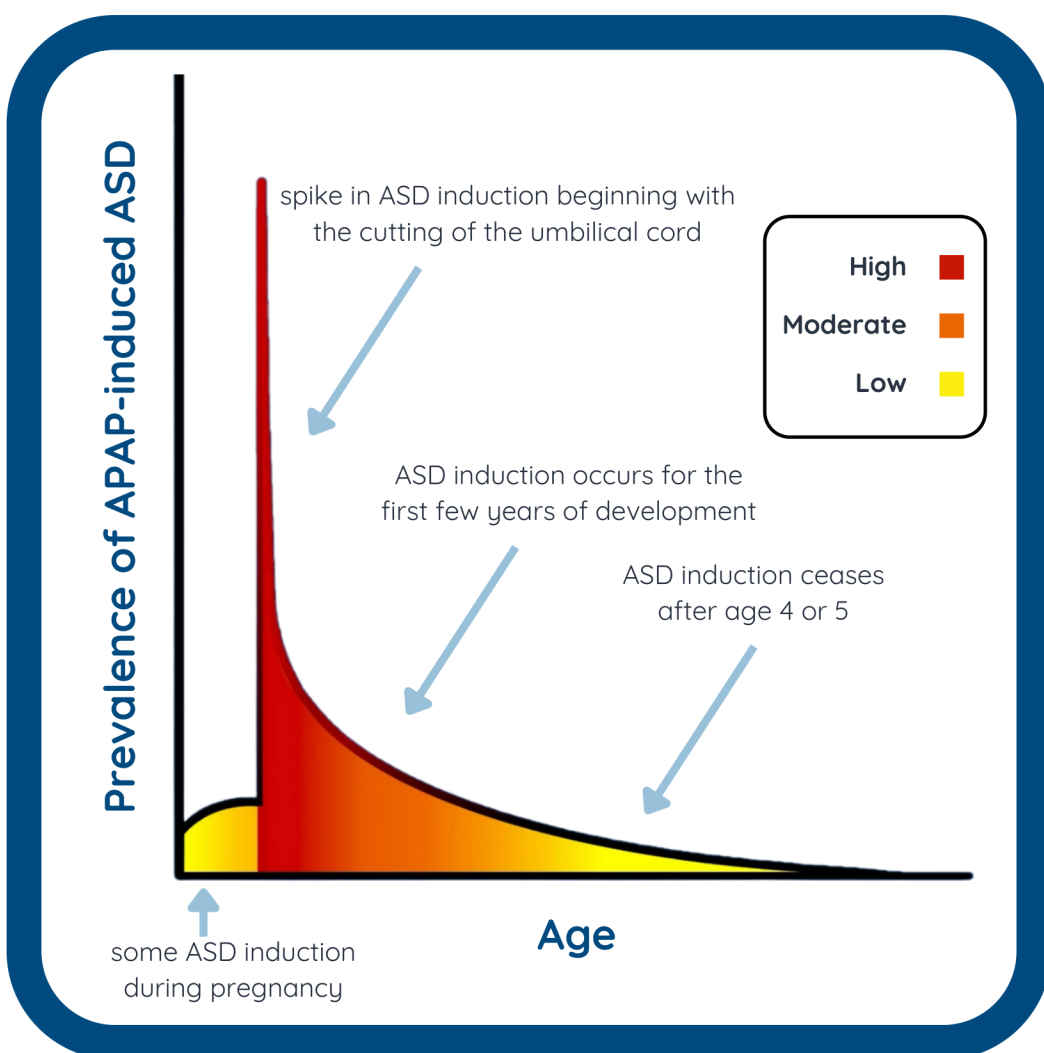
### What is APAP and ASD?

**Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)** is a developmental disability known for causing impairments in social interaction and restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviors, interests, or activities.

**Acetaminophen (APAP)**, a popular over-the-counter chemical that is primarily used to treat pain and fevers, causes many, if not most, cases of autism as well as other brain development problems in babies and children.



### Acetaminophen-induced Autism vs Age



### The Vulnerability Timeline for Autism Broken Down

The risk of developing ASD due to APAP exposure is highest in infants from birth until about ten days old. The infant's body is just beginning to support itself outside the womb and is vulnerable to chemical injury. For example, exposure to APAP during this time, such as what is left over in the baby's blood from the mother or as a treatment for circumcision, increases the likelihood of ASD development. The risk remains until the child reaches at least five years old.

Link to study: [www.mdpi.com/2227-9067/11/1/44](http://www.mdpi.com/2227-9067/11/1/44)



### What Should You Do?

Make a plan before your child needs help.

This may seem simple, but these moments are critical. Making an action plan for what you will do to mitigate pain and fevers will be a critical tool in your arsenal.

Learn more about the connection at:

[www.wplaboratory.org](http://www.wplaboratory.org)  
[www.preventautism.org](http://www.preventautism.org)