

## **The Presence of Another Person Influences Oscillatory Cortical Dynamics During Dual Brain EEG Recording**

Link: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32362842/>

It is known that social interaction is central to human behavior and important in brain development. However, little is understood about how brain activity actually changes when in the presence of another person. To examine how brain activity is modified based on the presence of another person, we measured brain waves using a tool called electroencephalography (EEG) in three situations: two adults seated in separate rooms, two adults seated in the same room back-to-back, and two adults in the same room facing one other. We found that brain activity was different when people were together or apart, though it did not matter whether they were facing one another or back-to-back. We also found that brain activity was related to the level of autistic traits that participants self-reported. This shows us that our brain patterns are different, just because another person is in the room with us. We hope this might be helpful in finding new ways to measure whether a brain is responding to others as expected and be potentially useful in detecting brain patterns in young children who might benefit from increased social exposure.