

Table S1. Demographic characteristics of the sample (N=14 ASD and 14 unaffected siblings) and main clinical features of the 14 children with ASD.

| | | N | Mean/Median (range) or % |
|---|------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| <i>Age in yrs</i> (<i>mean</i> ± <i>SEM</i>) | - <i>ASD</i> | 14 | 7.06 ± 0.96 (3.2-15.6) |
| | - <i>Unaffected siblings</i> | 14 | 6.68 ± 1.28 (1.0-14.0) |
| <i>Gender:</i> | <i>Male</i> | 11 pairs | 78.6% |
| | <i>Female</i> | 3 pairs | 21.4% |
| | <i>M/F ratio</i> | | 3.7 : 1 |
| <i>I.Q.</i> | <i>mean</i> ± <i>SEM</i> | 13* | 64.7± 6.78 (30-104) |
| | >70 | 7 | 50.0% |
| | ≤ 70 | 7 | 50.0% |
| <i>DSM-IV Diagnosis:</i> | <i>Autistic Disorder</i> | 10 | 71.5% |
| | <i>Asperger Syndrome</i> | 1 | 7.1% |
| | <i>PDD-NOS</i> | 3 | 21.4% |
| <i>Level of expressive language</i> | <i>Sentences</i> | 3 | 21.4% |
| | <i>Words</i> | 7 | 50.0% |
| | <i>Non-verbal</i> | 4 | 28.6% |
| <i>Median VABS scores:</i> | | | |
| | <i>Communication</i> | 12 | 73.5 (31-115) |
| | <i>Daily living skills</i> | 12 | 78.5 (48-113) |
| | <i>Socialization</i> | 12 | 73.0 (55-116) |
| | <i>Motor skills</i> | 8 | 87.5 (56-111) |
| | <i>Composite</i> | 12 | 73.5 (47-115) |

*One ASD patient with intellectual disability was not testable.

Abbreviations: IQ. intellectual quotient; PDD-NOS. Pervasive Developmental Disorder – Not Otherwise Specified; SEM. standard error of the mean; VABS. Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales.