## Genetic analyses of roundabout (ROBO) axon guidance receptors in autism (Mori et al., 2008)

Abnormalities of serotonergic neurotransmission have been reported in autism. Serotonin transporter (SERT) modulates serotonin levels and is a major therapeutic target in autism. Factors that regulate SERT expression might be implicated in the pathophysiology of autism. One candidate SERT regulatory protein is the roundabout axon guidance molecule, ROBO. SerT expression in Drosophila is regulated by robo; it plays a vital role in mammalian neurodevelopment also.

Abnormalities of ROBO may lead to autism either by interfering with serotonergic system, or by disrupting neurodevelopment.

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Increased expression of Slit2 and its receptors Robo1 and Robo4 in reactive astrocytes of the rat hippocampus after transient forebrain ischemia (Lee et al., 2016)



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