Research Units in Behavioral Interventions
Autism Network

A Randomized Trial of Parent Training for Young Children with Pervasive Developmental Disorders

The Marcus Autism Center is recruiting subjects to examine the effectiveness of Parent Training (PT) in reducing irritability and noncompliant behavior in young children with Pervasive Developmental Disorders (PDD).

**Purpose of the Study**
This study is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and will take place at five sites across the US (Emory University, Ohio State University, Indiana University, University of Rochester, and University of Pittsburgh). The purpose of the study is to evaluate the effectiveness of Parent Training (PT) in reducing irritability and noncompliant behavior in children with PDD.

As part of this study, your child will undergo a variety of assessments including but not limited to medical history, intelligence, and noncompliant behavior. You will be randomly assigned (i.e. by chance) to either PT or a control, Psychoeducational Program (PEP), group. In both treatments, you will be part of an extensive, 6 month set of one-on-one sessions with a therapist, including monthly assessment visits. Afterwards, there will be a 3 month and 6 month follow-up visit. Compensation will be provided as small payments to offset travel expenses during visits.

**Eligible Children:**
- Are between ages 3-0 and 6-11 and are currently enrolled in a structured school program
- Have a diagnosis of PDD (Autistic Disorder, Asperger’s Disorder, or PDD-NOS)
- Have disruptive behavior problems, which may include aggression, temper tantrums, self-injury, not following directions, whining and screaming, throwing objects, and/or disobeying rules
- Are currently on a stable intervention plan where there are no scheduled changes in intensity of treatment for the next 6 months
- Medication free or stable on medication with no changes in the past 6 weeks and no scheduled changes for the next 6 months

**If you are interested in participating in this study or have further questions, please contact:**

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