Yale Child Study Center Autism Section  
Active Studies  
April 2022

For all active protocols, there are specific inclusion/exclusion criteria not identified in this list. These will be discussed with potential participants at inquiry and intake. All studies are free and confidential and offer payment to participants.

Chawarska Lab/ SANA Lab (Social and Affective Neuroscience of Autism Program)  
Katarzyna Chawarska, PhD, Professor of Child Psychiatry, Principal Investigator

- NIH Autism Center of Excellence (ACE); pregnancy and infancy research protocols, focused on the developing brain, social and early emotional development.  
  For families with a child (older sibling) with ASD, or typically developing participants.  
  Enrolling from third trimester of pregnancy through four months of age, prospective studies following baby from birth through 30 months.
    - Participants receive clinically administered developmental, play-based assessments at milestone time points throughout enrollment; clinical feedback and written reports included when necessary
    - Participant’s development is followed prospectively through 30 months of age
    - Participants take part in play-based experimental procedures including eye tracking procedures while watching videos
    - Participation may include fMRI for fetal and/or neonatal brain imaging

Contact ACE@yale.edu, (203) 764-5933

- NIH Autism Center of Excellence (ACE); research focusing on the developing brain, markers of social development  
  Enrolling school aged children, ages 7 through young adulthood. For participants with ASD or typically developing.
    - Participants receive clinically administered developmental and ASD specific assessments, diagnostic summary, clinical feedback, and recommendations as appropriate
    - Participation includes fMRI, video eye-tracking
    - Participation may include biological samples

Contact ACE@yale.edu, (203) 764-5933

Jou Group

Roger Jou, MD, PhD, MPH; Instructor, Principal Investigator

- Psychopharmacology clinical trials, focused on real life, psychosocial interventions for adults with diagnosis of ASD
  Enrolling participants aged 13 through adulthood
Enrolling adolescent and adult participants with ASD diagnosis in appropriate pharmaceutical clinical trials
Contact roger.jou@yale.edu, (203) 927-3970

- SPARK - Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research for Knowledge
  - A population genetics survey study and DNA collection program for participants and families covering all ages
  Enrolling all ages, participants, and family members
  Contact roger.jou@yale.edu, (203) 927-3970

- Project CASY - Community Autism Socials at Yale
  - Borderless community recreation and support program for the greater autism community, families, and professionals.
    www.meetup.com/ProjectCASY/

McPartland Lab
James McPartland, PhD, Professor of Child Study, Principal Investigator

- Autism Biomarkers Consortium for Clinical Trials (ABC-CT). A multicenter study aimed to develop reliable and objective measurements of social function and communication in children with ASD.
  Enrolling school aged children, ages 6 through 11. For participants with ASD or typically developing.
  - Examines social, communication, and emotional skills to develop, track, and assess treatments in ASD.
  - Participants receive clinically administered developmental and ASD specific assessments, diagnostic summary, clinical feedback, and recommendations as appropriate
  Contact abc-ct@yale.edu, (203) 785-6108

- Brain Basis of Social Attention in ASD and Intellectual Disability. Research on behavior and brain systems to better understand the social difficulties
  Enrolling school aged children, ages 6 to 17. For children with ASD, intellectual disability or typical development.
  - Participation includes one visit to lab with clinical evaluation and questionnaires
  - Participation includes EEG (electroencephalogram) while watching videos
  - Participants receive diagnostic summary, clinical feedback, and recommendations as appropriate
  Contact autism@yale.edu, (203) 737-3439

- Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS).
  Enrolling adults ages 18-40 with ASD or typical development.
  - Studying how TMS, a non-invasive form of brain stimulation, can influence social brain activity and whether it can be helpful for those with autism.
Participants receive baseline assessment of neuropsychological, cognitive, and behavioral function
Experimental procedures include eye tracking and TMS
Contact autism@yale.edu, (203) 737-3439

Sukhodolsky Lab
Denis Sukhodolsky, PhD, Associate Professor of Child Study, Principal Investigator
- Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) for anxiety in school aged children with ASD; Enrolling school aged children, ages 8 to 14 with ASD and have high levels of anxiety
  - Study to learn skills for coping with anxiety
  - Participation includes fMRI, 15 weeks of therapy/training, neuropsychological assessments, and questionnaires
  - Participation involves parent trainings with strategies for managing situations that can be anxiety provoking for their children
Contact: https://www.ycscaffectiveyouth.com/participate, (203) 785-6446
- Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), treatment study for adolescents with ASD managing irritability and frustration
  Enrolling school aged children, ages 12 to 19 with ASD and elevated levels of irritability
  - A novel intervention study – Behavior Therapy for Irritability and Aggression (BTIA), helping adolescents develop emotion regulation skills to handle challenging social situations.
  - Participation includes 15 weeks of therapy/training
  - Participants receive a comprehensive assessment of autism, IQ and adaptive function
Contact: https://www.ycscaffectiveyouth.com/participate, 203) 785-6446

Ventola Lab
Pamela Ventola, PhD, Associate Professor of Child Study, Principal Investigator
- Pivotal Response Treatment (PRT) study
  Enrolling young children, ages 5 to 9 with ASD
  - An empirically supported manualized treatment for individuals with autism designed to improve social communication
  - Integrating multidisciplinary techniques including fMRI and structural neuroimaging
  - Participation includes EEG (electrophysiology), clinical and behavioral assessments
Contact daniel.magin@yale.edu, (203) 785-5657