

**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](mailto: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

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**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](mailto: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](mailto: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/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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
- Cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT), treatment study for adolescents with ASD managing irritability and frustration

Contact: <https://www.ycscafffectiveyouth.com/participate>, (203) 785-6446

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.ycscafffectiveyouth.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](mailto:daniel.magin@yale.edu), (203) 785-5657