

Early Autism Intervention

Wanted:

Caregivers & their children with ASD ages birth-to-three. The intervention study will help researchers understand the effectiveness of a parent-mediated, early autism intervention program on social and communication skills .

What will be involved?

All visits connected to this study will take place in the family's home or a convenient location .

There is **no charge** for participating in this study.

1. **Describing the child:** At the beginning and end of the study we will: (a) learn about the child's skills through caregiver interview and direct assessment; and (b) collect a video of caregiver and child interacting with each other.
2. **Group Assignment:** Families will be assigned by chance (like flipping a coin) to a group that is monitored or a group that coaches parents on how to provide intervention for their child. The group that is monitored may elect to receive intervention from us (at no charge) at the completion of the study.
3. **The Intervention:** Families assigned to the intervention group will receive weekly visits by a therapist (speech-language pathologists or early interventionist) for 12 weeks. The visits will last an hour and a half. Each week the therapist will coach the caregiver on strategies and techniques to use when interacting and playing with their child. Caregivers will be expected to use the strategies and techniques when interacting and playing with their child during the week.

What are the benefits?

Families in the intervention group may benefit by receiving 12-weeks of parent-mediated ASD specific intervention at no charge to the family.

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What are the risks?

All risks for this research are the same as those related to the treatment without research.



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Approval: This study has been approved by the Institutional Review Board at the University of Texas (UT) Dallas.