National Institute of Mental Health
of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Patient Recruitment - Pediatric Disorders

Autism Spectrum Disorders (Pediatric) Research Study

"2. Markers of Autism Spectrum Disorders in At-risk Toddlers: A Pilot Study"

Disease and Treatment Information

Detailed Protocol Description

Researchers at the National Institute of Mental Health are seeking toddlers 10-14 or 16-20 months of age with language delays, such as having no words at 16-20 months of age or only limited vocalizations at 10-14 months of age, or with typical language development to participate in a study of language delay as a risk factor for autism.

The purpose of this study is to examine early language delay as a risk factor for autism and to examine how these delays correlate with brain structure and function. The study involves an initial evaluation that will include a caregiver interview and behavioral and language assessments of the child. Following the initial evaluation, participants will have an overnight EEG and an MRI scan of the brain. Follow-up outpatient visits without an EEG or MRI will occur every 6-12 months. The final study visit will occur at 36 months of age and will involve repeating behavioral assessments, sleep EEG recording, and MRI scan.

This study will involve both outpatient and inpatient visits and will be conducted at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland.

Compensation will be provided. If you are interested please call 301-435-7962 (TTY: 1-866-411-1010) or e-mail: nimh-asd@mail.nih.gov

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