



The EARLI Study

The Early Autism Risk Longitudinal Investigation is a ground-breaking study looking at possible environmental and genetic links to autism. The study is currently recruiting mothers of a child with autism spectrum disorder and who are 20 weeks pregnant or less or may become pregnant. It is being conducted in California, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

What is Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)?

ASD, commonly called autism, is a developmental disorder characterized by decreased social skills, delays in speech and communication, repetitive behavior, low eye contact, and difficulty with self entertainment. ASD can display in a variety of ways, and it affects 1 in 150 children in the United States. Currently the causes of the disorder are unknown and there is no cure. The EARLI Study team is dedicated to advancing scientific knowledge and discovering the causes of this disorder.

Study sites include:

- Southeast Pennsylvania at Drexel University and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Northeast Maryland at John Hopkins University and Kennedy Krieger Institute
- Northern California at Kaiser Permanente
- Northern California at UC Davis and the M.I.N.D. Institute

Who can participate? Mothers who:

- Have a biological child with ASD;
- Are currently no more than 20 weeks pregnant or may become pregnant; and
- Live in the **Pennsylvania** counties of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia, or the **New Jersey** counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Mercer, or Salem, or New Castle County in **Delaware**.

Benefits for families:

- Your family will receive free autism assessments from clinical experts, including developmental assessments of your new baby from 6 months until 3 years of age.
- Compensation for your time: \$545.00 to \$605.00 if the entire study is completed from early pregnancy until your newborn child is 3 years old. Travel costs will be reimbursed.
- A new diaper bag and gifts for your baby.

Participants will be asked to:

- Fill out questionnaires, do phone interviews, and provide biological samples throughout pregnancy, at delivery, and afterward.
- Participate in study visits in the home and at the clinic. One visit will involve bringing your child with ASD for behavioral and developmental assessments.
- Allow study staff to collect biological samples from your baby until 2 years of age.



For more information, contact us at:

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