ADHD Research Study

Important Notice: Annual Visit Reduction to Start by June 2013

If you are scheduled for an annual “wave” visit, you may receive a letter about replacing it with a phone survey. Due to changes in the federal budget, we must reduce our visits in half this coming year (see Dr. Nigg’s article at right).

Half of our planned follow up visits will be randomly replaced with a 30-minute phone interview. The other half of families will continue with the scheduled on-site visit.

If your child is randomly selected, we will contact you near your scheduled time to complete a phone visit in place of the on-site visit. Teacher ratings will also be omitted. The purpose of the interview is to keep our records current, get basic information on your child’s progress, maintain contact and help with any needs or questions. We hope to obtain funding to continue the on-site visits in future years for all families.

We apologize for any inconvenience especially if this change affects you negatively. Contact us with concerns and comments anytime.

(503) 418-5508 or ohsuADHD@ohsu.edu

Progress and Challenges

A note from the Principal Investigator: Joel Nigg, Ph.D.

We have continued to have a highly productive season in the ADHD Research Program at OHSU. Over 500 families have enrolled in our physiological protocol at wave 1, and almost 350 have enrolled in the MRI longitudinal study. All are in process of completing subsequent waves of data, making Portland the home of a unique study. We continue to use the information to devise better ways to predict clinical outcome for children. Current papers in the pipeline are able to show meaningful subgroups of children with ADHD based on different profiles of brain connectivity and different profiles of physiology. The papers we are preparing for publication now are able to show superior prediction of clinical outcome year to year using our new measures versus what is currently available clinically. We are very excited about this progress.

At the same time due in part to recent changes in the Federal budget, funding for our program is reduced from what was expected. This year we will reduce the number of annual visits we have with families coming to campus. We will do this by replacing the on-site visit with a phone interview via random selection. We follow a special mathematical pattern of selection called “planned missingness” that allows us to statistically model the effect of the missing visits and thus minimize the negative impact on the scientific results. This will enable us to save funds while still getting nearly as much ability to detect clinical change as before. We will also continue recruiting sibling pairs through March 2014, while our singleton recruitment will end June 2013.

Our cohort of participating families remains one of the most valuable in the country, with numerous scientific findings and citations. We are grateful to have over 95% of families continue participation year to year. This is unusual and speaks to the level of community support we have felt. We are eager to retain contact with you, maintain your interest in the study, and address your questions and needs.

Thank you for contributing to this valuable research!

Teacher reminder before summer break

Obtaining teacher questionnaires is an important part of our on-site study protocol. If your family is selected to complete your yearly visit during the months of June, July or August, you will receive teacher ratings in the mail soon. Please pass on the teacher envelope to your child’s current academic teacher before school lets out for the summer. Enjoy your break!

Sibling Recruitment Deadline March 2014

Sibling recruitment will continue through 3/2014. Sign up soon!

Moved? ★ Change of phone/address? ★ Questions? ★ Comments?

Phone: (503) 418-5508 or (877) 678-ADHD
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Newsletter IRB approved: __________ ★ Funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) ★ Primary Investigator Joel T. Nigg, Ph.D.