

# GENDAAR Study Newsletter

## Seattle Children's Research Institute

### GREETINGS FROM THE GENDAAR STUDY

We are very excited to share that preparation for a follow up GENDAAR study is under way! In the coming months, your family may receive a call, email, text or letter inviting you to participate in the GENDAAR 2.0 study at Seattle Children's Research Institute. We anticipate contacting nearly 150 participants in the next few years!

The GENDAAR 2.0 study will take place at Seattle Children's and the University of Washington, but also at the University of Virginia, Yale, UCLA, Children's National Medical Center in Maryland and University of Colorado. Combined across these sites, we plan to invite roughly 400 returning participants, as well as some new participants between the ages of 10 and 26 years old.

If you have questions about your participation, or anything you read in this newsletter, please feel free to reach out to us at any time. Thank you again for your participation, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Dr. Sara Jane Webb & the GENDAAR Team



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### THE GENDAAR 2.0 STUDY

The GENDAAR 2.0 study is part of the Autism Center of Excellence (ACE Network), which includes researchers from across the country. The main goal of this follow up study is to investigate the transition through adolescence and into young adulthood. We aim to identify sex differences in individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and look at their brain development during this important transition. We will compare the data collected with individuals with ASD, to siblings of children with ASD and children with no family history of ASD. In order to investigate the questions we are asking, we will use a variety of methods: neuropsychological testing, EEG, fMRI, and genetics. Currently, research indicates that males are 4 times more likely to be diagnosed with ASD than females. By learning more about these sex differences, we aim to improve techniques for diagnosis and interventions.



**GENDAAR 2.0 Team:** (left to right) Jessica Benton, Emily Neuhaus, Megha Santhosh, and Sarah Corrigan.

## INSAR Meeting in Seattle in 2020!

INSAR, the International Society for Autism Research, provides scientific collaboration, mentorship, and education to better the lives of the individuals and families living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). INSAR membership is open to individuals engaged in academic or research activities, graduate students and post-doctoral researchers, and others vested in the study of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs). The 2020 Annual Meeting will be held May 6-9<sup>th</sup> at the Washington Convention Center in Seattle! A community conference is scheduled for May 6<sup>th</sup>. Get updates and learn more at: <https://www.autism-insar.org/>.

## Subscribe to My Good Growing!

My Good Growing is a Seattle Children's free email newsletter for parents and caregivers of children and teens. Sign up for my Good Growing and you will receive health and safety information six times each year in a format that is easy to scan and pick out what you need. It's one way that Seattle Children's can partner with you to keep your children and teens as safe and healthy as they can be! On occasion, they may send you event information specific to your area. These events are aimed at improving the health and safety of children and teens by providing information about safety, nutrition, fitness, and other topics. Sign up at: <http://www.seattlechildrens.org/safety-wellness/newsletters/>

## Autism Blog

The world of autism spectrum disorders is constantly changing, and the Seattle Children's Autism Center is eager to share with parents and caregivers what they continue to learn. This blog is designed to be a resource on autism as well as to give listeners an opportunity to comment on the posts and engage with their experts. The intent is to provide information that may be helpful to raising a child with autism. Content will range from topics such as selecting a summer camp to sibling support to new research findings. In addition, they share their perspective on the latest news and information about autism. GENDAAR's very own Dr.'s Sara Webb and Emily Neuhaus have been featured recently in *The Autism Blogcast* and *Ask Dr. Emily* sections. Learn more at <https://theautismblog.seattlechildrens.org/about-this-blog/>

## Autism 200 series

This is a series of free 90-minute classes for parents and caregivers of children with autism who wish to better understand this disorder. Faculty from Seattle Children's, the University of Washington, and community providers teach the classes. Each class includes time for questions. Classes are held the third Thursday of the month at Seattle Children's Hospital from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Wright Auditorium. Parking is in the visitor lots. Lectures are available to be viewed at home on a PC or mobile device through Facebook Live. Lectures are also recorded and can be viewed on the website following the lecture. For more information, please visit: <https://www.seattlechildrens.org/health-safety/keeping-kids-healthy/development/autism-200-series/>

**This summer join us for a 2-part series: "Transition to Adulthood"**

**August 15, 2019**

Autism 207: Abuse & Neglect of Adults with Developmental Disorders

