

Social ABCs with Attention Training Intervention for Toddlers with Suspected Autism



Local Principal Investigator:

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What is this study about?

- We are working to improve upon an early intervention program for toddlers who show signs of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). This program, called the *Social ABCs*, teaches parents strategies to improve their toddler's language and social abilities. When studied previously, this program helped toddlers improve speech and social smiling. In the current study, we want to see whether computer-based activities that teach toddlers to control their attention before receiving the *Social ABCs* has additional benefits for the child's communication and social abilities, more so than the standard *Social ABCs* intervention.

Who can participate?

- We are looking for toddlers aged 12-30 months who show early signs of ASD or have a confirmed diagnosis of ASD.
- Families that live within 50km of the Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital and are available to receive coaching intervention with their child during working hours.

What's involved?

- We will use tests that look at the symptoms of ASD, ask about your child's development, and observe your child's play, communication, and social abilities.
- We will have your child observe a computer activity and track their gaze using a camera software in your home weekly for 6 weeks.
- We will visit you and your child in your home regularly for several weeks to coach you on strategies of the *Social ABCs* intervention. During these visits, we will videotape you and your child playing together.
- You will be reimbursed for parking expenses and receive a copy of the *Social ABCs* manual.

Contact Information:

To ask questions, or to sign up, please contact

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