UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO
CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY

Study Title: Assessment of Biochemical Pathways and Biomarker Discovery in Autism Spectrum Disorder

This is a research study. The study doctor Elliott H. Sherr, M.D., Ph.D. from the Department of Neurology and/or a research coordinator will explain this study to you.

Research studies include only people who choose to take part. Please take your time to make your decision about your child’s participation in this study, and discuss your decision with your family or friends if you wish. If you have any questions, you may ask the researchers.

Your child is being asked to take part in this study because:

1. He or she has been given a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or a similar disorder characterized by social and/or behavioral deficits

AND/OR

2. He or she has a particular chromosomal change. A chromosomal change is a specific change inside the DNA of a person that may affect their development and/or health.

Why is this study being done?

Dr. Sherr and his colleagues at UCSF conduct clinical research seeking to advance the understanding of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) as well as other developmental disorders. With these investigations, we are trying to understand how biochemical pathways may affect thinking, behavior and overall development.

How many people will take part in this study?

Approximately 73 healthy individuals will be enrolled at control participants in this study.

What will happen if my child takes part in this research study?

If you agree to let your child be in this study, the following will happen:

1. The researchers will gather information about your child from a brief telephone interview or online questionnaire.

2. You will bring your child to UCSF’s medical center or Pediatric Clinical Research Center (PCRC) and your child will give a blood sample. The blood will be drawn by putting a needle into a vein in your child’s arm. One to two small tubes of...
blood (approximately one tablespoon) will be taken. This will take about five minutes. If your child is not able to visit UCSF to donate the blood sample, we will provide you with a kit that you can take to your local clinical lab or doctor’s office. The kit will contain tubes, instructions, and shipping supplies, and a prepaid return shipping label.

3. Your child’s height, weight, and head size will be measured.

4. You (and your child) will be asked to complete three questionnaires and/or a telephone interview regarding your child’s social, verbal, and behavioral traits. This is expected to take 1 hour.

5. Your child will be administered a neurocognitive assessment that would take 45 minutes.

How long will my child be in the study?

The research activities outlined above will require up to three hours of time.

Can my child stop being in the study?

If you first agree to let your child participate and then change your mind, you are free to withdraw your child from the study and discontinue your child’s participation at any time. If you choose to tell the researchers why you are leaving the study, your reasons for leaving may be kept as part of the study record. Your decision will not affect your child’s ability to receive medical care and your child will not lose any benefits to which your child would otherwise be entitled. Also, the investigators or other member of the research team may stop your child from taking part in this study at any time if he or she believes it is in your child’s best interest, if your child or you do not follow the study rules, or if the study is stopped.

What risks can my child expect from being in the study?

Drawing blood may cause temporary discomfort from the needle stick. Other risks associated with having blood drawn are slight but may include fainting or feeling light-headed, bruising, and infection. There is also a small risk that your child might feel distressed or nervous about having blood drawn (venipuncture).

You might feel worried about the possibility of your child’s personal information and/or participation in this study not being kept confidential. The risk of unwanted sharing of health information will be minimized by ensuring that all study records that identify your child will be kept completely confidential. A unique study subject number will be used on sample tubes as well as databases containing your child’s follow-up testing and questionnaire information. Only select members of the primary research team will have access to the original data. The information you and your child provide will be stored in a locked file cabinet.
There may be risks that are unforeseen and no one knows about yet. The researchers will let you know if they learn anything that might make you change your mind about your child’s participation in the study.

For more information about risks, ask one of the investigators or research coordinators.

**Are there benefits to taking part in the study?**

There will be no direct benefit to your child from participating in this study. However, the information that you and your child provide may help health professionals better understand social deficits observed in autism spectrum disorders and/or other neurologic, psychiatric, or behavioral disorders and may support the development of novel therapeutic strategies.

**What other choices do I have if my child does not take part in this study?**

You are free to choose not to have your child participate in the study. If you and/or your child decide not to take part in this study, there will be no penalty to you or your child. Your child will not lose any of his or her regular benefits, and your child can still get care from our institution the way he or she usually does.

**Will my child’s information be kept private?**

We will do our best to protect the information we collect about your child. Information which identifies your child will be kept secure and restricted. However, your child’s personal information may be given out if required by law. If information from this study is published or presented at scientific meetings, your child’s name and other identifiers will not be used. Information which identifies your child will be destroyed when this research is complete. Your child’s personal information may be given out if required by law. The following information about you in your medical and research records:

- UCSF’s Committee on Human Research
- Government agencies involved in keeping research safe for people, such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Sensitive research information: Participation in research may involve a loss of privacy, but information about your child will be handled as confidentially as possible. There is a risk that information about taking part in a study about ASD may influence insurance companies and/or employers regarding your child’s health. However, no information obtained in this study will be placed in your child’s medical records nor will it be provided to any insurance entity or place of employment, except in the situation described as follows: your child’s participation in this study may be noted in your child’s medical record at UCSF. If your child does not already have a medical record at UCSF, one will be created for them, if they complete some or all of the research activities.
associated with this study at UCSF’s medical center and/or Pediatric Clinical Research Center (PCRC). Your child’s consent forms and/or documentation of the blood draw procedure may be included in this record. Other doctors at UCSF may become aware of your child’s participation. However, hospital regulations require that all health care providers treat information in medical records confidentially.

**What are the costs of taking part in this study?**

There will be no cost to you for any of the study procedures. In the event that your child has his/her blood drawn outside of UCSF for the purposes of this research study, we will reimburse you up to $30.00 to cover the costs of the blood draw at an offsite facility. We will also reimburse you for parking costs if your child and you visit UCSF to complete any of the research activities described under the section, “What will happen if my child takes part in this research study?”

**Will my child be paid for taking part in this study?**

In addition to the study reimbursements outlined above, your child will receive $50.00 in cash or check upon completion of all of the study activities described under the section, “What will happen if my child takes part in this research study?”

Your child will receive $20 for the blood draw and height, weight, and head size measurements.

Your child will receive $30 for the completion of all surveys, questionnaires, and psychological assessments.

**What happens if my child is injured because of taking part in this study?**

It is important that you tell Dr. Sherr if you feel that your child has been injured because of taking part in this study. You can tell the doctor in person or call (415) 502-8039.

**Treatment and Compensation for Injury:** If your child is injured as a result of being in this study, treatment will be available. The costs of the treatment may be covered by the University of California, depending on a number of factors. The University does not normally provide any other form of compensation for injury. For further information about this, you may call the office of the Committee on Human Research at 415- 476-1814.

**What are my child’s rights if they take part in this study?**

Having your child take part in this study is your choice. You may choose to have your child take part or not to take part in the study. If you decide to let your child take part in
this study, you are free to leave the study at any time. No matter what decision you make, there will be no penalty to you or your child and your child will not lose any of their regular benefits. Leaving the study will not affect your child’s medical care. Your child can still get their medical care from our institution. We will tell you about new information or changes in the study that may affect your willingness to have your child continue in the study. In the case of injury resulting from this study, you will not lose any of your or your child’s legal rights to seek payment by signing this form.

**Who can answer my questions about the study?**

You can talk to the researchers about any questions, concerns, or complaints you have about this study by calling the research staff or Dr. Sherr at (415) 502-8039.

If you wish to ask questions about the study or your child’s rights as a research participant to someone other than the researchers or if you wish to voice any problems or concerns you may have about the study, please call the Office of the Committee on Human Research at 415-476-1814.

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**Optional: Use of Tissue for Research**

**About Using Tissue for Research**

As part of your child’s participation in this research, a tissue sample (blood) will be collected. We would like to keep some of the tissue that is leftover for future research. If you agree, the tissue specimen(s) will be kept in storage in what is called a “tissue bank.” Dr. Sherr’s tissue bank at UCSF will house tissue specimens collected for the purposes of this research study.

We do not know for sure if your child’s tissue specimen(s) or information will be used, but they might be used in research about neurological, psychiatric and behavioral disorders. Your child’s specimen(s) and any information about your child will be kept until it is used up or destroyed. If you decide later that you do not want your child’s tissue specimen(s) and information to be used for future research, you can notify the investigator and/or a member of the research team by calling (415) 502-8039 and/or in writing, and any remaining identifiable tissue specimen(s) and information will be destroyed if they are no longer needed for your child’s care. All written requests should be directed to Elliott Sherr, M.D., Ph.D. at 675 Nelson Rising Lane, Box 3206, San Francisco, CA 94158. However, if any research has already been done using portions of your child’s tissue specimen(s), the data will be kept and analyzed as part of those research studies. Reports about research done with your child’s tissue will not be given
to you or your child’s doctor. These reports will not be put in your child’s health record. The research will not have an effect on your child’s care.

Things to Think About

- The choice to let us keep the leftover tissue specimen(s) for future research is up to you. No matter what you decide to do, it will not affect your child’s care.
- If you decide now that your child’s tissue specimen(s) can be kept for research, you can change your mind at any time. Just contact us and let us know that you do not want us to use your child’s tissue. Then any tissue that remains will no longer be used for research.
- Sometimes tissue specimens are used for genetic research (about diseases that are passed on in families). Even if we use your child’s tissue for genetic research, we will not put the results in your child’s medical record.
- We may give your child’s tissue specimen(s) and certain medical information about your child (for example, diagnosis, age, developmental history, etc.) to other scientists or companies not at UCSF, including a government health research database, but we will not give them your child’s name, address, phone number, or any other information that would identify your child. Reports about any research will not be given to you or your child’s doctor.
- You will not be charged for donating your child’s tissue specimen(s). If any new products, tests or discoveries that result from this research have potential commercial value, you and your child will not share in any financial benefits.
- Your child’s personal health information cannot and will not be used for additional research without additional approval from either you or a review committee.
- There is a risk that someone could trace your information and sample back to you. Even without your name or other identifiers, your genetic information is unique to you. The researchers believe the chance that someone will identify you is very small, but the risk may change in the future as people come up with new ways of tracing information.
- In some cases, this information could be used to make it harder for you to get or keep a job or insurance. There are laws against the misuse of genetic information, but they may not give full protection. There can also be a risk in knowing genetic information. New health information about inherited traits that might affect you or your blood relatives could be found during a study. The researchers believe the chance these things will happen is very small, but cannot promise that they will not occur.

Benefits
There is no direct benefit to you or your child for donating your child’s tissue specimen(s) and agreeing to have your child’s tissue specimen(s) stored and potentially used for research. However, the benefits of research using tissue include learning more about what causes neurological, psychiatric and behavioral disorders and other diseases, how to prevent them, and how to treat them.

Making Your Choice

Please read each sentence below and think about your choice. **After reading each sentence, please initial either the "Yes" or "No" box.** If you have any questions, please talk to your doctor or nurse, or call our research review board at 415-476-1814. No matter what you decide to do, it will not affect your child’s care.

1. My child’s tissue may be kept for use in research to learn about, prevent, or treat neurological, psychiatric and/or behavioral disorders.

2. My child’s tissue may be kept for use in research to learn about, prevent or treat other health problems (for example: diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease, or heart disease).

3. Someone may contact me in the future to ask me about whether or not I’m interested in having my child take part in more research.
CONSENT

You have been given copies of this consent form and the Experimental Subject's Bill of Rights to keep. You will be asked to sign a separate form authorizing access, use, creation, or disclosure of health information about your child.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH IS VOLUNTARY. You have the right to decline to participate or to withdraw at any point in this study without penalty or loss of benefits to which your child is otherwise entitled.

1. Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

The person being considered for this study is unable to consent for him or herself because he or she is a minor. By signing below, you are giving your permission for your child to be included in this study.

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2. Study Staff Signature

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