UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO (UCSF)
ASSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY

Oxytocin: Relationships with Autism and Social Functioning
For children 7-12 years old

Why are we meeting with you?
We want to tell you about something we are doing called a research study. A research study is when doctors collect a lot of information to learn more about how the body works. Drs. Elliott Sherr and H. Terry Hutchison as well as some other doctors are doing a study to learn more about people who have trouble talking or playing with other people. We are also studying people who do not have trouble talking or playing with other people so that we can compare what we find. After we tell you about it, we will ask if you’d like to be in this study or not.

Why are we doing this study?
Right now, we don’t know why some people have trouble talking or playing with other people. We think that this might have something to do with a tiny chemical that lives in our blood and the fluid around our backbones. We want to know if people who have trouble talking or playing with other people have less of this tiny chemical floating around in their bodies than people who do not have trouble talking or playing with other people.

There will be about 150 people that will be in this study. About 75 of them will participate at UCSF in San Francisco and Fresno.

What will happen to you if you are in this study?
Only if you agree, a few things will happen:
1. You and your Mom or Dad will be asked about your health.
2. Your doctor will take a little bit of fluid from the area around your backbone. The doctor is going to do this to help take care of you. Your doctor will give you some medicine to help you fall asleep before he takes the fluid, so you won’t feel anything. While you’re asleep, the doctor will take a little extra fluid for us to look at.
3. A small amount of your blood will be drawn. That means it will be taken by a needle in your arm.
4. You and your Mom or Dad will be asked questions and asked to fill out questionnaires.

Will this study hurt?
The place where the fluid is taken out of your back may hurt a little and you could get a bruise or a headache. You are already having fluid taken out of your back because your
doctor thinks it is important for your health and giving extra fluid will not make your back hurt any more.

The stick from the needle to draw your blood will hurt, but the hurt will go away quickly. If possible, we will draw your blood while you are asleep for the other procedure, where your doctor will take some fluid from your back, so you won’t feel it.

**Will you get better if you are in this study?**
No, this study won’t make you feel better or get well. But the doctors might find out something that will help other children like you later.

**Do you have any questions?**
You can ask questions any time. You can ask now. You can ask later. You can talk to me or you can talk to someone else.

**Do you have to be in this study?**
No, you don’t. No one will be mad at you if you don’t want to do this. If you don’t want to be in this study, just tell us. Or if you do want to be in the study, tell us that. And, remember, you can say yes now and change your mind later. It’s up to you.

**The doctor will give you a copy of this form to keep.**

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**SIGNATURE OF PERSON CONDUCTING ASSENT DISCUSSION**

I have explained the study to _______________________(print name of child here) in language he/she can understand, and the child has agreed to be in the study.

_________________________________________  __________________________
Signature of Person Conducting Assent Discussion  Date

_________________________________________
Name of Person Conducting Assent Discussion (print)