

TREATMENT AND RESEARCH

Focus In NeuroDevelopment (FIND) Network

A statewide Network for research, resources and events. Anyone can join.

Visit: <https://redcap.ahc.umn.edu/surveys/?s=fLcoa8>

Email: jacoblab@umn.edu | Call: 612-625-8448

SPARK

A free online study with the mission to speed up research and advance our understanding of autism. Anyone with an ASD diagnosis can join. SPARK will ask you to share basic medical and family history, and if you choose, a DNA sample using a saliva collection kit.

Visit: www.SPARKforAutism.org/uminnnesota

Call: 612-624-0116

Parent Perceptions and Autism Survey

The purpose of this study is to better understand parent perceptions of (a) the causes of their child's ASD, (2) the identification and intervention-seeking processes, and (3) their approaches to treatment. You are eligible to complete this study if you are a resident of the United States over the age of 18 and are a caregiver of an individual with ASD.

To participate in this study please visit:

<https://z.umn.edu/parentperceptionssurvey> or contact Pang Chaxiong at xion0504@umn.edu.

Neurobehavioral Functioning In Youth

We're learning more about brain functioning in youth with specific neurobehavioral functioning disorders, including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Tic Disorders/Tourette (TD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD); and their healthy peers. Children ages 8-17, participating in the study will complete 1-2 hours of computer tasks, similar to games, while their parents will complete some questionnaires. To learn more contact: 612-301-1922

Thank you for participating in the fourth annual UMAI event and for showing your support for our ongoing efforts at the University of Minnesota.

The University of Minnesota Autism Initiative (UMAI) was formed by a collective of researchers at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in the pursuit of effecting positive change in the lives of individuals with autism spectrum disorder and related neurodevelopmental disabilities.

Our multidisciplinary approach hopes to unify stakeholders by focusing on these key areas of collaborative research:

- + *Build a community that supports purposeful, collaborative efforts for identification and treatment of ASD across the life span*
- + *Develop and provide state-of-the-art training opportunities for research*
- + *Bridge gaps in communication among diverse stakeholders in the Upper Midwest by building community engagement in research*

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
+ HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

website | umai.umn.edu

email | umai@umn.edu

facebook | University of Minnesota
Autism Initiative: University of Minnesota

*The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity
educator and employer.*

UNIVERSITY OF
MINNESOTA
**AUTISM
INITIATIVE**

FRIDAY, MAY 4TH

UMAI DAY 2018



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

12:00 – 1:00pm

Registration opens

1:00 -1:15pm

Overview of UMAI cross discipline research

1:15-2:00pm

The Use of Telehealth to Reach Children with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and Families Experiencing Barriers to Early and Intensive Intervention Jessica Simacek, Ph.D., Institute on Community Integration Adele F. Dimian, Ph.D., Institute on Community Integration

2:00pm – 2:45pm

Evidence-Based Social Skills Programming: Clinic to Community Rebekah Hudock, Ph.D., Department of Pediatrics

2:45

10 minute break

3:00 – 3:45pm

Expert Panel: A group of researchers and practitioners across disciplines will answer questions and share experiences Rebekka Hudock, Ph.D. Suma Jacob, M.D., Ph.D. Kelly Nye-Lengerman, Ph.D. Jessica Simacek, Ph.D.

3:45 – 4:30pm

View research posters, meet speakers, networking, and refreshments



+ **Adele Dimian, Ph.D.**, is a postdoctoral LEND Fellow at the University of Minnesota. Adele has worked on several federally funded research grants during her doctoral training for assessment and intervention of challenging behavior among individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities. She co-created the Telepresence Behavior Laboratory and is interested in examining how telehealth can be used as a service delivery mechanism. Adele's primary areas of research include: 1) investigating the early development of self-injurious behavior, 2) assessment and intervention of potentially communicative and challenging behavior, and 3) examining how telehealth can bridge the gaps in service delivery early on for families and individuals with neurodevelopmental disabilities.

+ **Rebekka Hudock, Ph.D.**, is a Pediatric Neuropsychologist and an assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Hudock's research focuses on services for individuals with ASD and other neurodevelopmental disorders and their families. Within this research area, her interests include social skills intervention; services for children with ASD and co-occurring mental health diagnoses; social-emotional development; parenting stress; school-based services, and transition services. Clinically, Dr. Hudock specializes in assessment and intervention for children with ASD and other neurodevelopmental disabilities.

+ **Suma Jacob, M.D., Ph.D.**, is board certified in general adult as well as child & adolescent psychiatry. She is an associate professor in the departments of psychiatry and pediatrics. For over the last decade, Dr. Jacob's research and clinical career has been focused on advancing the understanding of autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

She has completed studies about neuropeptide pathways, genetics, and treatment targets for ASD. She is currently investigating new approaches to characterize heterogeneity in ASD, so this data can be leveraged to develop individualized interventions.

+ **Kelly Nye-Lengerman, Ph.D.**, is a research associate at the University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration (ICI). Kelly's work is focused on making public policies and systems work for people through research, training, technical assistance and advocacy. Her work supports the full inclusion of individuals with disabilities in community life. Kelly's projects include Promoting Readiness in Minors in Supplemental Security Income (PROMISE) TA Center, Think Work, Learn the Signs Act Early (LTSAE) initiatives, and the College of Direct Support (CDS). She is also involved in a number of other community and research projects as part of the Research and Training Center on Community Living (RTC/CL).

+ **Jessica Simacek, Ph.D.**, is a research associate at the University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration. Jessica developed the MN Leadership in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) Telehealth Training Project and the ICI Telehealth Laboratory. She serves as the LEND Telehealth faculty, mentoring LEND fellows and conducting research. She has over 15 years of clinical experience in early intensive behavioral therapy for children with autism and related neurodevelopmental disabilities, across home, school, and center-based settings. Her primary research at ICI investigates telehealth to provide social-communication and challenging behavior intervention to reach children with autism and related disabilities and their families who experience barriers to intervention access.