

About the PARC study



A pilot study was conducted with the Autism Program at McMaster Children's Hospital to develop a research protocol that allows families to participate in research with minimal burden on families and staff.

Child & Community Resources is participating in the PARC Study to provide opportunities for families to learn more about the strengths and needs of their child, to help inform care, and to contribute to a research study with broad implications.



This will let us create a large group of **newly-diagnosed Autistic children** whose data can be analyzed to explore the way their symptoms and functioning may change as they grow.

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For more information, visit:

ccrconnect.ca/parc-project

To show our appreciation for taking the time to fill out the questionnaires, we provide a \$20 gift card to a store of your choice with each questionnaire package that is completed.



Child & Community Resources
Ressources pour l'Enfance
et la Communauté



CIHR
IRSC
Canadian Institutes of
Health Research
Instituts de recherche
en santé du Canada

*This study was approved by CCR in partnership
with the McMaster Autism Research Team.*

Help us learn more about the ways Autistic children grow and develop

TAKE PART IN RESEARCH



How the PARC study helps

The PARC study will gather data to help us examine the factors that influence diversity in how Autism unfolds over time.

Gathering and interpreting this data will not only improve our understanding of Autism, but can help to inform your child's care.

Why is this study important?

We have worked together with researchers, clinicians, and parents to decide which information would be the most important to collect and meaningful to research so that it will be useful and informative for families and service providers.

Factors influencing development of an Autistic child

Socioeconomic status

Family experiences

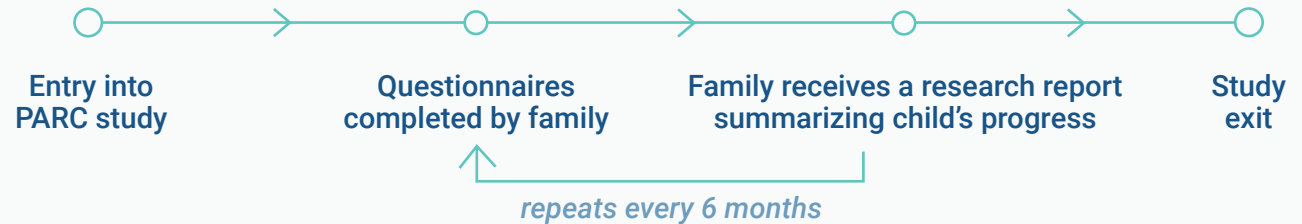
Individual strengths

Symptoms & behaviours

Services & supports

Resource availability

What does my participation involve?



We will ask you to complete a set of online questionnaires (taking about 2-3 hours total) repeated **every 6 months until study exit (age 6)**. We provide a thank-you \$20 gift card for your time.

You will also receive **research summary reports** after each timepoint in the study. This will help you track how your child's symptoms, skills, and abilities may be changing over time.

Who can take part?

We are recruiting families with newly diagnosed Autistic children:

- ✓ Participants must be younger than 5 years old
- ✓ Participants must have received a formal Autism diagnosis within the past 12 months

If your child received their diagnosis more than 12 months ago, there may be other research opportunities available to you.

How will my family benefit?

The information collected will allow us to have a better understanding of the strengths and needs of each family, helping us inform service providers on the care children are receiving. This will also help us gain a better understanding of supporting and caring for all Autistic children.

Will this affect my child's care?

All participation in this project is voluntary. Participants may choose to withdraw from the project at any time. Withdrawing from the project will not negatively affect the services you and your family receive.