

Putting the Puzzle Together

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CLEVELAND CLINIC CENTER FOR AUTISM RESEARCH PROGRAM



"The Blum clinical trial (described below) represents the next evolution in autism treatment approaches by focusing on a specific biological mechanism. These types of trials coupled with studies of specific genetic sub-groups (such as our PTEN study – see below) will greatly advance our ability to improve the lives of individuals with autism."

Thomas Frazier, II, PhD

Cleveland Clinic returns to Rocky River with Children's Center for Autism

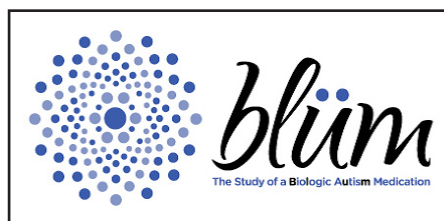
The facility is now open and providing outpatient early intervention services to patients with autism. Therapy treatments offered will include occupational therapy, speech/language pathology, and behavioral therapy using the approach of applied behavior analysis (ABA). The new center was made possible with \$250,000 in funding from the Community West Foundation. The 2,000-square-foot space is located on the second floor of the Rocky River's Don Umerley Civic Center.

This community expansion is an important initiative for local families who have a child with autism. Many newly diagnosed children require several hours of therapy each week, and having those therapies close to home reduces significant time spent traveling to appointments. Additionally, Cleveland Clinic Children's is partnering with the City of Rocky River to promote wellness for families attending their appointments. Instead of sitting in a waiting room during their child's appointment, parents are encouraged to spend their time using the Don Umerley Civic Center amenities.

If you are interested in seeking services at the Rocky River location please call 440-895-2020



A New Phase III Medication Trial is Now Enrolling



Many children with Autism exhibit impaired protein digestion which may lead to restrictive diets. The inability to digest protein affects the availability of essential amino acids which play a crucial role in the expression of several genes that are important to neurological function. Investigators want to see if the study medication, CM-AT, may help improve symptoms of Autism. Researchers will evaluate children using psychological, medical, behavioral, and developmental measures. The 14-week clinical trial is a FDA-regulated powdered investigational medication which is neutral in taste and is sprinkled on food three times a day. Participants must be between the ages of 3-8 and have a diagnosis of ASD.

Contact our Research Coordinator Emily Zetzer to find out more at 216-448-6682 or zetzere@ccf.org





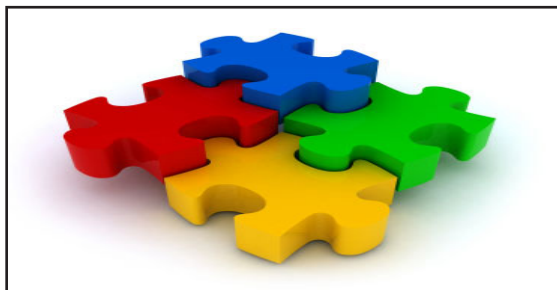
Targeted ABA (T-ABA) Treatment Research

The Center for Autism-Rocky River is investigating the effects of a new parent training program. Eligible participants must be between 20 months and 6 years old with a diagnosis of ASD.

Participating in this 10 week study includes:

- Five weekly one and a half hour parent group sessions
- Five weekly parent therapist coaching sessions
- Individualized therapy sessions
- Topics based on empirically validated ABA treatment

If your child is between the age of 20 months and 5.99 years old please contact Rachel King, M.A., BCBA for more information.
Phone: 440-895-2001



Natural History Study of Individuals and Autism and PTEN Mutations

The Cleveland Clinic is enrolling participants ages 3-21 in an observational study of PTEN hamartoma tumor syndrome. We are working to gain a better understanding of PTEN mutation syndromes and the relation to autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Participating in this study involves 3 visits to the Cleveland Clinic over the course of 2 years and involves a physical exam, medical history questions, a blood draw, and neuropsychological assessments.

Eligible participants must have either a confirmed PTEN Mutation, with or without a diagnosis of ASD, or a diagnosis of ASD with the presence of macrocephaly

(head circumference >98th percentile).

If interested in this study please contact Emily Zetzer, Zetzere@ccf.org or 216-448-6682

Projects Aims to Collect DNA from 50,000 With Autism



A new study is collecting genetic information from tens of thousands with autism and their families in order to learn about the disorder's causes and treatment potential. The project, SPARK, is welcoming people with autism from across the country to participate in a first-of-its-kind effort with an unparalleled scope.

The data will be used in efforts to understand what's behind autism and how to address the challenges faced by those with the developmental disorder. SPARK will also serve as a database researchers can turn to in order to identify candidates for future studies.

For more information about this study you can visit: <https://sparkforautism.org/>

Upcoming Autism Events:

Autism Speaks Walk Now for Autism
Sunday September 11, 2016
Progressive Field

For more information visit: <http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/cleveland>

