Name of Study: Spatiotemporal dynamics of contextual processing in schizophrenia, autism spectrum disorder, and obsessive-compulsive disorder

Location: Massachusetts General Hospital, Charlestown, MA

Eligibility Criteria: Individuals 16-60 years old with High Functioning Autism or Asperger’s Syndrome who are fluent in English and have no history of drug or alcohol abuse within the past six months, no seizure disorder, and no history of head injury that resulted in a prolonged loss of consciousness or lasting changes in function.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Dara S. Manoach, Ph.D.

Contact Information: Marlisa Isom, Research Coordinator; phone: (617) 726-1908

Dear Parent,

We are writing to invite you or your child to take part in a research study at the Massachusetts General Hospital. Through this research effort, we hope to learn more about how the brain functions in autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and how the brain function is influenced by genes. Taking part will involve a parent interview to establish diagnosis. Participants with autism spectrum disorder will complete paper and pencil tasks, provide a saliva sample for genetic analysis, and also learn an eye movement task that they will perform during brain imaging scans, both functional MRI and magnetoencephalography (MEG). All of the procedures are completely safe and non-invasive and the study has been approved by the Human Subjects Committee at Massachusetts General Hospital.

The study will be completed during three visits. Visits 1 and 2 will last approximately 2 hours, and visit 3 will last approximately 3 hours. Participants will be paid between $170 and $210 for their time and effort.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Marlisa Isom, our research coordinator, at (617) 726-1908 or misom@nmr.mgh.harvard.edu.

Thank you in advance for your time and your interest in research. We look forward working with you.

With best wishes,

Dara Manoach, Ph.D.

IAN Research ID SR00299