

Specialized Medical Services for the Autism Community at the Center for Autism and Related Disorders

Who We Are

At the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) at Kennedy Krieger Institute, we offer specialized medical services that focus on diagnosing and treating autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and other developmental disorders. Some of our services include:

- Neurodevelopmental evaluations
- Psychiatric evaluations
- Psychopharmacological evaluations
- Ongoing medication management
- Follow-up care
- Collaboration with community providers, including primary care physicians, therapists, early intervention specialists, educators, and other professionals
- Referrals for appropriate therapy and treatment programs, which may include behavioral intervention, speech therapy, augmentative communication treatment, genetic counseling, social skills and cognition, occupational therapy, and family support



Our Medical Team

All of our physicians hold faculty appointments at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Our team includes specialists in:

- Pediatric neurology
- Developmental and behavioral pediatrics
- Neurodevelopmental disabilities
- Child and adolescent psychiatry

- Biological basis of developmental disorders
- Brain-behavior relationship in pediatric anxiety disorders
- Psychopharmacological treatments of ASD

Our Research

Our physicians are active in a variety of autism-related research, including:

- Metabolic and mitochondrial disorders associated with ASD
- Use of the ketogenic diet to treat epilepsy and behavior problems in children with autism
- Motor impairments

Our Treatment Approach

Testing and Evaluation: Once a child is referred to CARD, he or she receives a comprehensive initial evaluation or consultation. During this evaluation, an extensive clinical interview is conducted, allowing the clinician to thoroughly explore the child's medical, developmental, behavioral, and other relevant family history. The physician also assesses developmental functioning and performs a physical examination, which may include neurological, dysmorphology, or psychiatric components. Based on the nature and scope of the reported problems and the results of the clinical interview and physical examination, some children may be referred for additional lab work, genetic or metabolic testing, behavioral testing, and brain imaging.

We are all born with great potential.
Shouldn't we all have the chance to achieve it?



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Recommendations and Referrals: After we identify any areas of difficulty and discuss our findings with family members, recommendations are made for medical, educational, and therapeutic needs. In addition, resource information and materials for assistance at home, at school, and in the community may be provided.

Follow-up: Our medical practitioners offer follow-up appointments when ongoing developmental observation or treatment is required. To ensure that each child reaches his full potential, additional treatment or therapy might be recommended. A follow-up appointment may include:

- Ongoing developmental monitoring or surveillance
- Medical management
- Coping and family support
- Education about available treatment options
- Guidance to help families anticipate and prepare for transitions
- Advocacy

Online Resources for Families

- ianresearch.org
- autismspeaks.org
- pathfindersforautism.org

Resources for Professionals

- Autism: Caring for children with ASD, a resource toolkit for clinicians. American Academy of Pediatrics, 2008.
- ninds.nih.gov/disorders/autism
- cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/index.html

“At a time when we were so unsure of what was going on with our son, we found comfort in the evaluation and the services provided at CARD.”

– Mother of a patient

Contact Information

Center for Autism and Related Disorders at Kennedy Krieger Institute

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call **443-923-7680**, or toll-free at **888-554-2080**. TTY: **443-923-2645** or Maryland Relay **711**

card.kennedykrieger.org

Physicians & Healthcare Professionals

To make a referral, call our Physician Referral Line at 443-923-9403.

Center Location:

3901 Greenspring Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21211

Mailing Address:

707 North Broadway
Baltimore, MD 21205

Kennedy Krieger Institute recognizes and respects the rights of patients and their families and treats them with courtesy and dignity. Care is provided in a manner that preserves cultural, psychosocial, spiritual and personal values, beliefs, and preferences. We encourage patients and families to become active partners in their care by asking questions, requesting resources, and advocating for the services and support they need.



Learn More. Get Involved. Stay Connected. Visit **kennedykrieger.org/connect**.