

Queensland Cerebral Palsy & Rehabilitation Research Centre (QCPRRC) Faculty of Medicine

## Early intervention for infants who have an increased chance of having Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Are you currently pregnant? Does your baby have a first-degree relative (parent or sibling) diagnosed with ASD?

Researchers at the University of Queensland have developed a new early intervention approach for infants who have an increased chance of having ASD called **ENACT**. **ENACT** targets social reciprocity *from the earliest months*, harnessing the power of ordinary parent-infant interaction. In addition, ENACT incorporates strategies to support parental mental health and wellbeing, as well as coping with parenting challenges such as infant sleep. **ENACT** is delivered online, beginning antenatally, and combines an online e-course with online consultations with a clinician, supporting parents in tailoring the intervention to best meet their own individual needs and the needs of the baby. As the intervention is online, it can be accessed from the convenience of your home and your device.

## What does participation involve?

Participants will be randomly allocated to take part in ENACT or to receive care as usual. If you are randomly assigned to ENACT, then you will receive the ENACT early intervention including the e-course and clinician support.

All participants will need to complete assessments (questionnaires and/or developmental assessments) when signing up to the study and when their baby is 3, 6 and 12 months of age. Most of the assessments will be conducted online. However, participants will need to visit the Child Health Research Centre in Brisbane for a developmental assessment when their child is 6 and 12 months of age.

<u>All participants</u> will receive a report from our developmental paediatrician detailing their child's 12month developmental assessment <u>free of charge.</u>

## Can I participate?

You can participate in this study if you are **currently pregnant with a child who has a first-degree** relative (a mother, father, sister or brother) who has been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. You also need to have reliable internet access in order to complete ENACT. You will need to be able to visit the Children's Health Research Centre in Brisbane when your infant is 6 months and 12 months old for in-person developmental assessments.

## Your active participation and feedback is valued!

With your help, we hope to perfect **ENACT** and make early intervention accessible to infants who have an increased chance of having ASD across the world.

If you would like to find out more or know someone who might be interested, please contact Chief Investigators Miss Kavindri Kulasinghe or Dr Andrea McGlade (Chief Investigators) on +61 (7) 3069 7547 or enact.qcprrc@uq.edu.au

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