

Ohio State University Nisonger Center

IS CURRENTLY ACCEPTING PARTICIPANTS FOR A STUDY OF CHOLESTEROL IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

This is a 26-to-32-week research study examining cholesterol levels in children with **Autism, Asperger's disorder, or pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified**, and the effectiveness of cholesterol supplementation or placebo (a fake supplement powder) in children with abnormally low cholesterol.

To be eligible for this study, participants must:

- Be between the ages of 4 and 12,
- Meet diagnostic criteria for Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Disorder, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder – Not Otherwise Specified (we will do a diagnostic evaluation),
- Have a mental age of at least 18 months (we can do an intelligence test),
- **Not** be currently taking dietary supplements – or be willing to stop dietary supplementation upon admission into the trial (we will provide a standard vitamin/mineral supplement),
- **Have not** taken cholesterol supplements in the last three months,
- **Not** have a severe medical condition (e.g., heart disease, high blood pressure, lung disease, liver or kidney failure),
- **Have not** taken statin medications in the last three months, and
- **Not** be taking medications that affect cholesterol or lipid levels.

All evaluations and treatments for this study are provided without charge to participants. In addition, families who participate receive some reimbursement for travel, parking, and time, and children receive a small prize at each visit. There are risks, which will be explained before anyone agrees to participate.

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