

GENETICS CONSULT CLINIC

Jacksonville CARD Center

*** Updated: 9-12-2007 ***

Jacksonville CARD Center
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WHAT HAPPENS AT THE GENETICS CLINIC?

The purpose of our clinic is to provide medical genetics evaluations and genetic counseling to families with children or adults with autism or autism spectrum disorders. The genetics evaluation may help your family learn more about what may have caused the autism condition and about the chances that autism could occur again in your family. We may also discuss current advances, testing, research, and treatments. However, we do not provide any direct treatments or medications. During the evaluation, we will try to learn as much about your medical and family history as possible. We will review medical records, ask you about any medical problems in your family members, and also do a brief physical exam. It is possible that we may also recommend laboratory testing.

HOW SHOULD I PREPARE FOR MY APPOINTMENT?

Families should arrange to have medical records or test results mailed or faxed to the CARD center as early as possible so that we may review them before your visit. These may include summaries of evaluations by specialists, neurology, psychological, or developmental evaluations, MRI scan results, chromosome, or other genetic test results. It may be helpful to bring to the appointment any health information about family members (including parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, or cousins). Please also bring with you any photographs of family members that you think will assist in our evaluation.

WILL I RECEIVE A REPORT?

Each family's primary health care provider will receive a typed letter summarizing the evaluation. A copy will also be sent to the family and to the Jacksonville CARD Center.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any family who is registered and able to receive services from the Jacksonville CARD Center is eligible for an evaluation at no charge. Evaluations are currently part of the services offered by the Jacksonville CARD Center. Authorization or permission from insurance companies may be required for any laboratory testing that may be recommended.

WHOM WILL I MEET?

The genetics team is from the Department of Pediatrics, University of Florida, Gainesville and consists of Charles A. Williams, M.D., a pediatrician and medical geneticist and Jennifer A. Defant, M.S., a genetic counselor.

* * * The Genetics Clinic is held twice per month at the Jacksonville CARD Center * * *

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call the CARD Center at (904) 633-0760 or Jennifer Defant at (352) 392-4104 or go to www.hscj.ufl.edu/peds/aut/ and click on CARD staff to access Dr. Charles Williams' website