What is behavioral inflexibility?

Behavioral inflexibility encompasses a range of behaviors that can affect children and adolescents and are common in individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. They can also exert an impact on family life. Examples of behavioral inflexibility include:

- Resistance to change
- Dislike of new things
- Is picky and has a small number of interests/things they like
- Develops a routine or fixed way of doing things and doesn’t like to change this

Our measure will be aimed at children and adolescents between 3-17 years with IDD, including those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

We are seeking input from families throughout the course of the project to help us develop a measure that (1) captures the range of behavioral inflexibility in IDD and ASD (2) captures the impact of these behaviors on child and family life and (3) is sensitive to change over time and with treatment.

Interested in participating?

Please contact us at

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Project BIDD: Behavioral Inflexibility in Developmental Disabilities

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
NISONGER CENTER
What is the goal of the study?

Project BIDD (Behavioral Inflexibility in Developmental Disabilities) is a collaborative project involving The Ohio State University, UNC-Chapel Hill and Vanderbilt University. The purpose of Project BIDD is to develop a novel measure addressing the behavioral inflexibility children and adolescents with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) exhibit in daily life. For example, some children easily adapt to changes in their environment or daily routine while other children find this difficult.

Who can take part?

We are recruiting individuals with and without a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder until Spring 2018.

Your child may be eligible to take part if:

- He/she has a diagnosis of ASD
- Aged between 3 and 17 years

We are also recruiting families of children without a diagnosis of ASD aged 3 to 7 years.

What does participation involve?

If you take part in our study, you will visit us at The Ohio State Nisonger Center. All families will be invited to complete three assessments over the course of a year. Twenty percent of families will be randomly invited to complete a fourth assessment.

The first visit will last between two and four hours. During this time your child will complete some behavioral and computer based assessments. You will complete a series of questionnaires. Following the visit, we will also schedule a time to conduct a brief phone interview with you.

The subsequent visits are considerably shorter (around one hour) and only involve the primary caregiver. Caregivers will be asked to complete some of the same questionnaires and a brief interview.

During the assessments, we will provide your child breaks and refreshments. Our team can be flexible with after school visits, if needed.

What do I get for taking part?

Families will be compensated $100 for their time and valuable input for the first study visit. All families will be invited to complete a second visit one year later. A proportion of families (40%) will be invited to complete a subsequent visit 2 weeks after their first. You will be compensated $50 for subsequent study visits.

Meet Our Team

Principal Investigator: Dr. Luc Lecavalier, Ph.D.

Research Clinician: Dr. Jill A. Hollway, Ph.D.

Project Coordinator and main contact for all interested participants: Jill Alexander, MA; 614-685-3200