SPARK Is in This for The Long Term!

Autism Research Is Better Together.

What Is SPARK?

SPARK is an online autism research study that aims to make new discoveries and advance the understanding of autism.

30 TOP UNIVERSITY AND CLINICAL SITE PARTNERS

We fund research across the country that has published over100 papers.

Why Is Research Important?

Research is done to increase all ofour understanding and discover new things

- Researchers collect data, analyze results, and share what they learn.
- Research helps us learn more about the health, behaviors, and life experiences of people with autism and their families.
- Participation in a research study is voluntary and optional. It does not replace care from a health care provider.
- Findings from research can affect decision making and patient care, which can lead to better treatments or supports for people with autism.

Thompson Center for Autism & Neurodevelopment
University of Missouri

Join SPARK Today!

To learn more about SPARK and register online via a secure portal, visit

SPARKforAutism.org/MUTC

All data provided to SPARK will be stored without any identifying information and kept confidential. SPARK is sponsored by the Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative (SFARI), a scientific initiative of the Simons Foundation.

@SPARKforAutism

SPARK: Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research for Knowledge
c. 2024 Simons Foundation / SPARK Principal Investigator: Wendy Chung, M.D., Ph.D.
WCG IRB

Join SPARK and play an important role in the largest study of autism ever.

SPARK

350,000+ TOTAL PARTICIPANTS

SPARK is now the largest study of autism ever. And we are growing every day!

Everyone Needs Answers!

We need to understand what makes you unique. We do this by:

- Studying behavioral, medical, and genetic information from hundreds of thousands of people.
- Partnering with the nation's leading research universities and autism centers.
- Committing to research for the long term. The SPARK study will continue to study information from participants as they age for years to come.
- SPARK is free to all individuals with autism, of any age, and their family members.

How Does SPARK Work?

Join Today!

If you are an individual with a professional diagnosis of autism, or the parent/guardian of someone with an autism diagnosis, we invite you to enroll in SPARK.

Benefits of Joining SPARK

You can play a role in powering autism research for years to come. Some of the benefits to you include:

- The possibility of finding a genetic cause of autism in your own family.
- Behavioral results from surveys and the chance to be invited to other autism research studies through SPARK Research Match.
- The opportunity to earn gift cards as part of your participation.
- Updates on the latest autism research through articles on our website, monthly webinars, and newsletters.

Register Online

Enrollment takes about 20 minutes online. It is simple, free, and completely private.

Return Your Saliva

You can provide a saliva sample for DNA analysis at no cost to learn of genetic changes related to autism.

Share Your Experience

You may be invited to join other relevant autism research studies. Participation is voluntary.

"The vast scope of SPARK across intellectual, developmental, emotional and social dimensions is what attracted us."

– DAVID B., SPARK PARTICIPANT

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Your Privacy is Important

Here are some of the many ways we keep your personal information private and secure:

- An institutional review board continuously reviews the SPARK study.
- We remove any identifying information and a code is used in its place
- All your research data and records are stored in a secure, encrypted, password-protected database.
- SPARK will never sell data or DNA to anyone nor publish anything about the study anywhere that could identify you without your permission.