



Autism Spectrum Disorders Centers

Serving Kaiser Permanente families and children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

Department of Psychiatry

Kaiser Permanente San Jose Medical Center

The Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Centers of Kaiser Permanente Northern California were developed to meet the needs of families with children displaying behaviors on the autism spectrum. The San Jose ASD Center is located at the Kaiser Permanente San Jose Medical Center facility. The ASD Centers at San Jose, Rancho Cordova and San Francisco are part of the ASD Regional Programs in the Northern California Region of Kaiser Permanente.

Key Principles of the Regional ASD Centers:

- ✓ Provide care in a coordinated and integrated medical setting in collaboration with families and community agencies.
- ✓ Provide assessment, consultation, treatment of children, adolescents, and their families from a developmental, multidisciplinary, and best practices perspective.
- ✓ Maintain commitment to early identification and treatment in a system of care that is family centered.
- ✓ Educate, support, and empower parents through a regional health education program.
- ✓ Educate care providers who work with children throughout Kaiser Permanente Northern California.

For more information or general inquiries, please call:

San Jose ASD Center: (408) 360-2350 or tie line 8-542-2350

Rancho Cordova ASD Center: (916) 631-2550 or tie line 8-433-2550

San Francisco ASD Center: (415) 833-4111 or tie line 8-493-4111



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Residents, interns, and fellows from Stanford University Medical School and other programs also train and rotate regularly with ASD staff

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What services does the ASD Center provide?

A. The ASD Center provides in-depth developmental screening & assessment, treatment plans, clinical consultation, and case management services for referred ASD children by a multidisciplinary team representing the following disciplines child & adolescent psychiatry, clinical psychology, pediatrics, behavioral and developmental pediatrics, pediatric neurology, genetics. Local child and adolescent psychiatry departments offer several classes for parents of children with an ASD diagnosis. For information about these classes, call your local child and adolescent psychiatry department or the ASD Centers.

Q. How do I refer patients to the ASD Center?

A. Any Kaiser provider in the Northern California Region may refer a child to the ASD centers. The ASD centers accept referrals via *eConsult* after the child has been screened using the M-CHAT or other best practices developmental tool and is determined to meet ASD risk referral criteria. The ASD centers will also accept referrals when there is parent or a Kaiser provider's concern about the child's developmental progress. Training on the use of the screening tools and the referral process has been presented to all provider's group in the Northern California Region. Additional information and training is available by contacting the ASD Regional Director Pilar Bernal, MD directly.

Q. How will clinicians in the region care for the ASD patient population that cannot travel to one of the two ASD Centers?

A. The Kaiser Permanente Northern California ASD program has developed best practice guidelines for the management of the ASD population. The Regional ASD program staff is committed to monitoring and disseminating these guidelines to all Kaiser Permanente providers. The ASD Regional Program includes a continuum of care with ASD champions and clinicians in all behavioral health programs.

Q. Where can I learn more about Autism Spectrum Disorders?

- A. www.autism-society.org *Autism Society of America*
- www.brightfutures.org *Endorsed by The American Academy of Pediatrics.*
 - www.ninds.nih.gov/health_and_medical/disorders/autismshortdoc.htm *Great overview fact sheet on Autism.*
 - www.ddhealthinfo.org/pdf/ASD_Best_Practice.pdf or www.ddhealthinfo.org or www.dds.ca.gov/autism *CA Dept. of Developmental Services, Best Practice Guidelines for Screening, Diagnosis & Assessment.*
 - www.aacap.org *The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*
 - www.php.com *(PHP) Parents Helping Parents*
 - www.nimh.nih.gov *National Institute of Health*
 - www.umacc.rackham.umich.edu *University of Michigan at Ann Arbor Autism & Communication Disorder Center*
 - www.teacch.com *Treatment & Education of Autistic & Related Communication Handicapped Children University N Carolina*
 - www.lpch.org or www-cap.stanford.edu/ *Stanford University Lucile Packard Children's Hospital PDD (Autism) Clinic*
 - www.mindinstitute.org *The M.I.N.D. Institute at the University of California at Davis*

Q. What other ASD activities is Kaiser Permanente participating in?

A. The San Jose ASD Center is collaborating on federally funded research projects with Principal Investigator Lisa A. Croen, PhD from the Kaiser Permanente Division of Research (DOR). In addition, the San Jose ASD Center is participating in ongoing community consultation, collaboration, and training. For a more current list of ASD research projects, contact Pilar Bernal, MD directly.

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