2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Signs of Autism in Infants:
Changing Outcomes through
Early Identification and Intervention

October 11 & 12, 2008
Placentia Yorba Linda Educational Services Center
Yorba Linda, California

Experts from the United States, Canada, and Israel will be presenting their ground-breaking research on early autism identification and intervention.

Hanna A. Alonim
Lori Annes, Ph.D., P.T.
Janet Green Babb, M.S., P.T.
Pauline A. Filipek, M.D.
Hedy S. Hansen, BBA
Paula Horner, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Barbara Kalmanson, Ph.D.
Karen Pierce, Ph.D.
Jennifer A. Pinto-Martin, Ph.D., MPH
Mel Rutherford, Ph.D.
Tracy Murnan Stackhouse, MA, OTR
Mary Beth J. Steinfeld, M.D.
Douglas Vanderbilt, M.D.
Laurie Vismara, Ph.D., BCBA
Patricia Wilbarger, M.Ed., OTR, FAOTA
Janis White, Ed.D.

We are now recognizing the signs of autism in infants and changing outcomes through early intervention.
Saturday, October 11: Early Identification

Moderator: Patricia Wilbarger, M.Ed., OTR, FAOTA

7:00 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00 Welcome and Introduction — Margie Wagner, President, Child Development Media

What are the Red Flags that Signal Concern in the First 18 Months?

8:15 Pauline Filipek, M.D.
Typical and Atypical Infant Development: When Should We Be Concerned?

9:30 Mel Rutherford, Ph.D.
Differences in Social Perceptual Development Allow for Autism Screening in the first Year of Life

10:45 Break

11:00 Mary Beth Steinfeld, M.D.
Identification of Autism Before Two Years of Age

12:00 Lunch

What are the Tools that Lead to Detection? Screening and Diagnostic?

1:00 Jennifer Pinto-Martin, Ph.D.
Screening Strategies for Autism Spectrum Disorder

2:00 Karen Pierce, Ph.D.
The Early Identification of Autism: Towards a Bio-Behavioral Approach

3:15 Break

3:30 Panel Presentation:
What are the Hurdles from Positive Screen to Early Intervention?
Moderator: Mary Beth Steinfeld, M.D.
Panelists: Lori Annes, Ph.D., P.T. · Douglas Vanderbilt, M.D. · Janis White, Ed.D.

4:30 Closing Panel Discussion — Q & A
Lori Annes, Ph.D., P.T. · Pauline Filipek, M.D. · Karen Pierce, Ph.D.
Jennifer Pinto-Martin, Ph.D. · Mel Rutherford, M.D. · Mary Beth Steinfeld, M.D.
Douglas Vanderbilt, M.D. · Janis White, Ed.D.
Sunday, October 12: Early Intervention

Moderator: Barbara Kalmanson, Ph.D.

7:00 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:00 Margie Wagner, President, Child Development Media

What are the Treatment Options and Outcomes?

8:00 Barbara Kalmanson, Ph.D. and Janet Green Babb, M.S., P.T.
Insights for Infant-Parent Treatment of Early Signs of Autistic Spectrum Disorder

9:15 Paula Horner, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Social Reciprocity in the Infant-Parent Dyad — Implications for Early Social Communicative Intervention in Autism

10:30 Break

10:45 Laurie Vismara, Ph.D., BCBA
Can One Hour per Week of Therapy Lead to Lasting Changes in Young Children with Autism?

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Tracey Stackhouse, M.A., O.T.R.
The Role of the Occupational Therapist in Early Identification and Intervention for Autism Spectrum Disorders

2:15 Hanna Alonim
A Window of Opportunity: Detection and Treatment of Infants with Early Signs of Autism

3:30 Break

3:45 Hedy Hansen, B.B.A.
Where are Parents in the Confusion and How do They Find Services that Work?

4:30 Closing Panel Discussion:
The Undeniable Need for Early Intervention, What Will it Take?
Hanna Alonim · Janet Green Babb, M.S., P.T. · Hedy Hansen, B.B.A.
Paula Horner, Ph.D., CCC-SLP · Barbara Kalmanson, Ph.D.
Tracey Stackhouse, M.A., O.T.R. · Laurie Vismara, Ph.D., BCBA
Changing Outcomes through Early Identification and Intervention

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Signs of Autism in Infants: Changing Outcomes through Early Identification and Intervention

Hanna A. Alonim
Founder and Director
MIFNE Centre, Rosh Pinna, Israel

A Window of Opportunity: Detection and Treatment of Infants with Early Signs of Autism

In the first international conference of Early Signs of Autism (LA 2006) Alonim introduced a radically new concept that emerged from clinical research at the Mifne Center in Israel. In her presentation, Alonim introduced a pro-active approach to the treatment of autism. In this follow-up presentation, Alonim will elaborate on the crucial role of timing. The detection of infants at risk facilitates earlier treatment, when infants, in their first 18 months of life, are more responsive to therapy. This window of opportunity is contrasted with the response time of children from 18 months and its achievements compared to the treatment of toddlers up to the age of 36 months. The presentation will present two case studies, accompanied by DVD films of their treatment.

Pauline A. Filipek, M.D.
Director, Autism Research for OC Kids Neurodevelopmental Center, Associate Professor of Clinical Pediatrics and Associate Professor of Clinical Neurology, University of California, Irvine

Typical and Atypical Infant Development: When Should We Be Concerned?

Symptoms of autism by definition always are present before age 3, but autism is often not diagnosed until 2 to 3 years of age or even later. Recent research has improved our understanding of and ability to identify the early subtle signs of autism in infancy. An early diagnosis can have significant impact on the course of treatment and future outcomes for children and their families. In this session, Dr. Filipek will present video clips of typical and atypical development as examples of potential “red flags” of early autism in infants starting at 3-6 months of age.

Dr. Filipek received her MD from Georgetown University School of Medicine. She completed a pediatric residency, including a chief residency, at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, and a (child) neurology residency and MRI-Morphometry Fellowship at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School. She remained at MGH/HMS until she was recruited by the University of California, Irvine, Departments of Pediatrics and Neurology in 1994. Dr. Filipek clinically specializes in children with developmental disorders. She has received many grant awards from the National Institutes of Health and other foundations such as the National Alliance for Autism Research. Most recently, Dr. Filipek was the recipient of a $6.4 million grant from the Children and families Commission of Orange County to improve early recognition and treatment of young children with autism. Dr. Filipek founded For OC Kids to serve children and families with autism and other developmental disorders. She is particularly interested in the identification of the early subtle signs of autism in infancy. Dr. Filipek served as the Chair of the American Academy of Neurology/Child Neurology Society committee to determine Practice Parameter: Screening and Diagnosis of Autism. She also served on the National Academy of Science Committee on Educational Interventions for Autistic Children.

Hedy S. Hansen, BBA
Family Support & Education Program Manager
For OC Kids Neurodevelopmental Center

The Parent Journey from Acceptance to Empowerment: How to Navigate in Partnership with Families

Parents are challenged on a variety of levels when their perfect child appears to them to have atypical needs and/or development. Most parents recognize a difference early and often experience difficulty navigating through systems, services, and a myriad of professionals. Some resistance in seeking identification, validation, and intervention may even appear from the least expected arenas. Delays in earlier identification often stem from a variety of factors, recognizing these factors can aid parents and the many individuals eager to provide intervention services to families. Topics to be discussed include; how families are impacted emotionally by the diagnosis, how to aid parents through the process, how to develop appropriate expectations as a parent and a professional, how to enhance relationship development with families, the empowered parent and resources to learn more.

Hedy Hansen is the parent of a young man diagnosed with autism over fourteen years ago. Shortly after her son’s diagnosis in 1995 she became involved with her local chapter of the Autism Society of America. From there she found her way to Comfort Connection Family Resource Center where she supported families and later became the Center’s Director. In 2004, Ms. Hansen joined the team at For OC Kids where she provides assistance to families regarding parent to parent support, the service delivery system and provides parent and professional trainings. Ms. Hansen has participated in policymaking activities as the Co-Chair to the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council and as Council Vice-Chair of the California State Interagency Coordinating Council. She has also served as Vice Chair of Orange County’s Mental Health Board. Additionally, Ms Hansen has been a national trainer for the Federal Head Start Bureau and their SpecialQuest Early Head Start Training Project through Sonoma State University.

Paula L. Horner, Ph.D. CCC-SLP
Social Reciprocity in the Infant-Parent Dyad – Implications for Early Social Communicative Intervention in Autism

The purpose of this presentation is to identify the crucial elements of pre-symbolic communication that serve as the building blocks for later social communicative development in infants considered to be at risk for Autism. I will present information concerning the effectiveness of intervention and the variables contributing to the success of such intervention. We will also examine the role of maternal responsiveness and the clarity, range and function of communicative signals sent by the infant. I will also provide some ideas for formulating ecologically based programs that meet various family needs.

Paula L. Horner received her Ph.D. in Speech and Hearing Sciences at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. She has specialized in working with infants, toddlers and families at-risk for the past 25 years. She has practiced in outpatient pediatric clinics, neonatal intensive care nurseries, early intervention programs, private practice, home health, and university-affiliated programs. In addition to maintaining a private caseload and serving as a consultant to hospital and early intervention programs, Dr. Horner has taught graduate and undergraduate coursework at several universities. Her primary areas of interest focus on infants and toddlers at high risk, parent-infant social communicative development, and literacy with children below a functional age of 36 months. She has presented nationally and internationally to early intervention specialists and therapists regarding issues related to the assessment and treatment of children 0-36 months and their families.
Signs of Autism in Infants: Changing Outcomes through Early Identification and Intervention

Barbara Kalmanson, Ph.D.
Psychologist and Educator, Clinical Director and Co-Founder of the Oak Hill School in Marin City, CA

Janet Green Babb, M.S., P.T.
Developmental Progressions, Private Practice, and Physical Therapy Consultant to University of California, San Francisco, Neonatal Follow-up Clinic

Insights for Infant-Parent Treatment of Early Signs of Autistic Spectrum Disorder

This presentation addresses the possibility of identifying early signs of autistic symptoms during the first year of life, and providing infant-parent intervention that enables the parents to understand and support the development of their perplexing baby from the first weeks of the unfolding relationship, thus ameliorating the quality of relationship issues central to Autism. The integration of infant-parent psychotherapy in a DIR model with pediatric physical therapy will be shown through videotapes of the parents’ interactions with their infant from 2 months to 2 1/2 years of age. Early signs in the movement, vocalizations and use of gaze to regulate interaction will be discussed in connection with the effect on the parents’ thoughts, feelings and overtures toward the baby. The issues involved in early identification will be illustrated through case vignettes that examine the therapeutic process facing the clinicians and the parents as we work to provide sensitive treatment involving the interplay of constitutional factors and the care-giving environment. Implications for future research on early identification of Autism and early treatment paradigms will be addressed.

Barbara Kalmanson has over 30 years of experience working with schools, children and their families. She is a founder of the Oak Hill School in Marin City, California. Dr. Kalmanson has extensive experience as a clinical psychologist, a special educator, and as an infant mental health consultant including work with the Infant-Parent Program at University of California in San Francisco; The San Francisco Psychoanalytic Institute, Child Development Program; California Pacific Medical Center, Child Development Center and in private practice in San Francisco and Marin County. She consults to schools and agencies nationwide. Dr. Kalmanson is the Academic Dean of the ICDL Graduate School, a council member, faculty and training coordinator for the Interdisciplinary Council on Learning & Developmental Disorders (ICDL). She has served on multiple boards of directors including the Mayor’s Advisory Board on Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health in San Francisco, California. She received her doctorate in Psychology and Special Education from the University of California, Berkeley. Dr. Kalmanson is a recipient of the Zero to Three: the National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families Harris Fellowship. The Frederic Burk Foundation for Education Fellowship and a National Institute of Mental Health Training grant. Her many publications focus on diagnosis and treatment of autistic spectrum disorders, affective development, relationship-based intervention and the importance of family-provider relationships.

Janet Green Babb is a pediatric physical therapist treating a large variety of children, from birth through young adults, with diagnosis ranging from mild motor delay to children with severe neurological challenges. She has been in private practice since 1985 in San Francisco. She received her B.S. in PT from University of Pennsylvania and an M.S. degree in PT, specializing in pediatric neurology, from University of Southern California. During her graduate work she had the opportunity to intern and study with Jean Ayres. She is trained in the NDT approach to children with neurological deficits. For the last 20 years, she has been the physical therapy consultant at the Neonatal ICU Follow-Up Clinic at UCSF, following the high risk infants through the first few years of their lives. Janet works closely with a speech therapist and occupational therapist on a weekly basis, doing co-treatments and enjoying the team approach to the treatment of a child.

Karen Pierce, Ph.D.
Director of Clinical Research Autism Center of Excellence, UCSD Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Neurosciences, UCSD

The Early Identification of Autism: Toward a Bio-Behavioral Approach

Detecting autism at the youngest age possible is of the utmost importance. Currently, however, there is no standardized mechanism for the early identification of autism younger than age 2 or 3 years. This is because autism remains a behaviorally defined disorder, and this places limitations on scientific and clinical discovery. During this presentation, Dr. Pierce will provide a general review of the state of early identification research as well as highlight ongoing research in this area at the UCSD Autism Center of Excellence. The discussion will include consideration of novel behavioral and biomarkers such as those based on plasma and MRI.

Karen Pierce is a research faculty member in the Department of Neurosciences at University of California San Diego, and the Clinical Director of the UCSD Autism Center of Excellence (ACE). Dr. Pierce is also the Co-Director of functional brain imaging at the ACE. Dr. Pierce has been involved in both the treatment and neuroscience of autism for the past two decades. She has been awarded several research grants including those from NIMH, the Organization for Autism Research and Cure Autism Now. She has also received an Autism Society of America Research Award and a UCSD Chancellors Research Award in recognition of her outstanding work. Pierce has published extensively in a wide range of areas from behavioral treatment to brain dynamics in autism. Her functional imaging work was highlighted in Time Magazine (May, 2002). As director of the Clinical Phenotype Core of the UCSD ACE, Pierce is pivotal in both establishing collaborative relationships with pediatricians in San Diego, as well as ensuring that all babies referred receive thorough diagnostic and psychometric evaluations. Her current research interests include studies aimed at detecting autism at the earliest ages possible. Such studies will bring the field of autism research closer to finding a cure.

Jennifer A Pinto-Martin, Ph.D., MPH
Viola MacInnes/Independence Professor, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing and School of Medicine Director, Master of Public Health Program; Director, Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Research and Epidemiology (CADDRE)

Screening Strategies for Autism Spectrum Disorder

This presentation will discuss implementation of the American Academy of Pediatrics practice parameter for developmental screening, including screening for autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in pediatric primary care. Red flags for early recognition of ASD in young children will be reviewed and the value of early identification will be presented. Developmental surveillance (using general developmental screening tools) versus targeted autism specific screening (using autism specific screening tools) will be compared as alternate strategies for early identification of children with ASD. Data from an evaluation of screening strategies in pediatric primary care practice will be reviewed.

Dr. Pinto-Martin is the Director of the newly accredited Masters in Public Health Program and the Director of the Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Research and Epidemiology (CADDRE) at the University of Pennsylvania. CADDRE is one of six Centers funded by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to work collaboratively to understand the causes of autism and the reasons for its recent increase in prevalence nationwide. Dr. Pinto-Martin serves as Secretary for the International Society for Autism Research and as a consultant for the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee for the National Institutes of Health. Additionally, she is a member of the Scientific Review Committee for the National Institutes of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, the American Public Health Association, and the Society for Epidemiological Research. She is currently on the Editorial Board for the journal Pediatric and Perinatal Research. Dr. Pinto-Martin is the former President of the Society for Pediatric Epidemiologic Research.
Signs of Autism in Infants: Changing Outcomes through Early Identification and Intervention

Mel Rutherford, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, Neuroscience and Behaviour, and Canada Research Chair in Social Perception, McMaster University, Ontario, Canada

Differences in Social Perceptual Development Allow for Autism Screening in the First Year of Life

Comparisons between close relatives of those with and without autism spectrum disorders (ASD) reveal differences in cognitive profiles. The specific cognitive characteristics of close relatives of those with ASD include differences in social cognition as well as reasoning about intuitive physics and math. In my lab, a longitudinal study measures early social perceptual development in infants in the first year of life, based on infants’ responses to faces, emotions, eye gaze, and animate motion. For each of five tasks we measure eye direction, using an eye tracker. Results show diverging developmental trajectories in the first year of life. This suggests the possibility of developing a screening tool for early autism diagnosis. There is a pressing need for early, reliable diagnostic and screening tools for autism. Earlier diagnosis of autism is associated with an improved prognosis. This developing tool is designed to be objective fast. The data collection took just 10 minutes (on each of four visits) and was meant to be fast and easy for participants and administrators.

Mary Beth J. Steinfeld, M.D.
Associate Clinical Professor, Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics, Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, UC Davis

Identification of Autism Before Two Years of Age

This presentation will describe the results of the Infant Sibling Study, a prospective, multi-center study of early signs of autism in infants at genetic risk for autism. The goal of this study was to understand the very earliest manifestations of autism in infancy. We use prospective methods to track the onset of symptoms and better understand underlying mechanisms that might put infants at risk of developing autism. In the study, 200 infants with either an older sibling with autism or an older sibling who is developing typically are followed from shortly after birth, through the window of autism risk, to age 3. We have developed behavioral probes to study early emotional development, imitation, communication, social interest, and knowledge of objects. At age 3, we make preliminary diagnostic determinations (autism, ASD, speech-language delay, other concerns, or no concerns). We then examine how later diagnostic outcomes are related to performance on our experimental measures at 1, 3, 6, and 12 months, with the eventual goal of developing better methods for early detection of autism. During this presentation, Dr. Steinfeld will use the Infant Sibling Study as the context for talking about what is known and not known about early signs of autism, even outside this study.

Tracy Murnan Stackhouse, MA, OTR
President, Developmental FX

The Role of the Occupational Therapist in Early Identification and Intervention for Autism Spectrum Disorders

Occupational therapists are uniquely situated to assist in the early identification and intervention of very young children with autism spectrum disorders. They offer expertise in early motor and sensory development as well as self-regulatory processes along with associated daily living skills such as sleeping and feeding. Since the difficulties associated with autism and related conditions may first manifest themselves in early sensory, motor and self-regulatory processes, the OT is a critical team member. This session will focus on a review of the neuroscience findings related to motor, sensory and self-regulatory processes related to ASD in infants and very young children as well as offer best practice recommendations for identification and treatment.

Laurie Vismara, Ph.D., BCBA
Postdoctoral Fellow UC Davis M.I.N.D. Institute

Can One Hour per Week of Therapy Lead to Lasting Changes in Young Children with Autism?

Parent-child interventions are one only part of the comprehensive treatment for autism, but like other aspects of autism treatment, needs to be validated through efficacy studies. The presentation will describe the results from a brief study, conducted at the UC Davis M.I.N.D. Institute. Parents learned to implement naturalistic therapeutic techniques from the Early-Start Denver Model, which fuses development and relationship based approaches with applied behavior analysis, into their ongoing family routines and parent-child play activities. Findings are discussed in relation to providing parents with the necessary tools to engage, communicate with, and teach their young children with autism beginning immediately after the diagnosis.

Dr. Laurie Vismara is an educational psychologist and certified behavior analyst who specializes in conducting youth treatment research with young children with autism spectrum disorder and their families. Dr. Vismara received her degree from the University of California, Santa Barbara where she studied under Drs. Robert and Lynn Koegel at the Koegel Autism Center. During her graduate training, she received extensive clinical experience in implementing Pivotal Response Training in both school and home-based intervention programs for children with ASD. Currently, Dr. Vismara is completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the M.I.N.D. Institute. While under the mentorship of Dr. Sally Rogers, Dr. Vismara has received training related to understanding the early signs of ASD in high-risk infants and becoming a certified trainer in the Early Start Denver Model (ESDM), a developmental and relationship based intervention approach to working with infants and toddlers with ASD. Dr. Vismara has received grant funding aimed at developing a parent coaching approach to the ESDM and studying the effectiveness of telehealth medicine to disseminate evidence based practices to community early intervention providers.
**2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Signs of Autism in Infants: Changing Outcomes through Early Identification and Intervention**

**OCTOBER 11 & 12, 2008**

Placentia Yorba Linda Educational Services Center
4999 Casa Loma Avenue, Yorba Linda, CA 92886

**How to Register:**
Telephone: 800-405-8942 or 818-989-7221
Fax: 818-989-7826
Online: www.childdevelopmentmedia.com
Mail: Child Development Media, Inc.
5652 Van Nuys Blvd. Suite 286
Van Nuys, CA 91401 U.S.A.

**Registration Fees:**
- Single Person
  - Early Bird (Postmarked before 10/1/08) $380
  - After 10/1/08 $430
- Returning Participants from 2006 International Conference $350
- Groups of 4 or more from one agency $350 per person
- Number attending ___________ $_________
- One Day Sat. Sun. $200
- After 10/1/08 $225

Payment can be made by check, credit card, or agency purchase order. Make checks payable to Child Development Media, Inc.

**Cancellation Policy:** All cancellations must be in writing, received by Child Development Media ten (10 days) prior to the conference. Refunds will not be granted after that date. Refunds will be issued minus a $25.00 processing fee.

**Confirmation:** Registration confirmations will be sent by email. You may also call 800-405-8942 to confirm registration. If you have not received your confirmation by Oct. 1 please call 800 405 8942 or 818 989 7221 for the confirmation number. Late registrants should call to confirm space availability. Fees include handouts, continental breakfast, luncheon and afternoon refreshments.

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**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Embassy Suites: Brea – North Orange County, 900 E. Birch Street, Brea, CA 92821. Reservations: 800-362-2779
“Early Signs of Autism Conference.” Rooms: $121 & $131 per night. Rooms subject to applicable taxes. Free shuttle to conference.

Please make reservation before October 1, 2008. Hotel contact: Lori Herrera, Tel. 714-510-2983.
For additional hotel accommodations, directions and parking information please visit www.childdevelopmentmedia.com.

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**Lori Annes, Ph.D., P.T.**
Owner and Director of Can Do Kids, Inc. in Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Annes has 30 years of experience in pediatric physical therapy with a strong clinical focus and expertise in early identification of children with developmental disabilities. Specifically, Dr. Annes has vast experience in the area of oral motor dysfunction as an early sign of neurological motor based deficits as well as sensory based oral motor difficulties in infants and young children. Her clinical expertise includes collaborations with neurologists and developmental specialists to identify those infants whose attachment, self-regulatory dysfunction, persistent digestive difficulties and feeding challenges in early infancy may place them at risk for autism spectrum disorders. In addition, Dr. Annes has the unusual combination of expertise in Communication Sciences and Disorders with a specialty in Learning Disabilities in addition to her clinical expertise in Physical Therapy.

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**Douglas Vanderbilt, M.D.**
Visiting Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics
Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California
Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics Fellowship Program
Director
Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles

Dr. Vanderbilt is a board certified Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrician. While at Boston Medical Center and now at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, he has diagnosed and followed children on the autism spectrum for over 6 years. His clinical activities focus on supporting families with children on the autism spectrum with evidence based diagnostic and treatment approaches. His interest is in helping to develop the CHLA Boone-Fetter Clinic into a nationally recognized Autism Treatment Network clinical site and a cutting edge developmental and behavioral training experience. He has given presentations to various interdisciplinary groups and media outlets on the identification and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. His research focuses on the posttraumatic stress of parents and children generated in medical settings.

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**Janis White, Ed.D.**
Chief Operating Officer
Regional Center of Orange County

Dr. Janis White is currently Chief Operating Officer for the Regional Center of Orange County. In this position she oversees the operations of the agency with a goal of consistency of quality services to people with disabilities. Dr. White has Masters Degrees in Administration and Speech Pathology, in addition to a doctorate in Educational Administration. She has 30 years experience in teaching, speech pathologist, and administration. The Regional Center of Orange County has been innovative in providing individualized services for people with autism. Early intervention is the key to positive outcomes and RCOC has partnered with the Orange County Department of Education and O.C. Mental Health to provide Interagency Autism Classes and training seminars. In addition, an increase in applied behavior analysis support and parent training has been critical to successful outcomes.

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**MODERATOR**

**Patricia Wilbarger, M.Ed., OTR, FAOTA**

Patricia Wilbarger is an occupational therapist and counseling psychologist who has been working with some aspect of sensory processing theories for over forty years. She is a cofounder of Sensory Integration International and Avanti projects. She has lectured worldwide and has contributed to the development of sensory integration organizations in several countries. Ms. Wilbarger is well-known for her work with newborns, infants, and children with diverse diagnoses. She was one of the first occupational therapists to work in the public schools and the neonatal intensive care unit. Currently, she is the president of Avanti Educational Programs, Inc., she lectures nationally and internationally on sensory processing disorders and sensory integration, and maintains a private practice in Santa Barbara, CA.

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Please make reservation before October 1, 2008. Hotel contact: Lori Herrera, Tel. 714-510-2983.
For additional hotel accommodations, directions and parking information please visit www.childdevelopmentmedia.com.
Identifying the features of autism before the age of one is a priority at the forefront of the scientific community. Steady progress is being made in all disciplines addressing the autistic spectrum. By bringing together experts across these key disciplines, a convergence on early intervention will start to emerge from the debate. This 2-day event is directed to researchers who are leading the way and clinical practitioners who must build bridges between theory and practice. Together we face the task of combining what we are learning with what we know works for the betterment of the lives of babies and their concerned parents.

Saturday, October 11 and Sunday, October 12, 2008

www.ChildDevelopmentMedia.com

Sponsors:
Avanti Educational Programs, Inc.
The Infant Development Association
The Northeast Orange County SELPA
The Orange County Early Childhood Mental Health Consortium

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS OFFERED

CEUs are being offered. Registration for CEUs will be taken on-site at the conference.

California Board of Registered Nursing – The County of Orange Health Care Agency is a provider approved by the California Board of Registered Nursing, provider # CEP-15019. The course meets the qualifications for 16 hours for two days, October 11-12, of continuing education credit for Nurses, as required by the California Board of Registered Nursing.

California Board of Behavioral Science – The County of Orange Health Care Agency is a provider approved by the California Board of Behavioral Science, provider # PCE-389. The course meets the qualifications for 16 hours for two days, October 11-12, of continuing education credit for MFTs and/or LCSWs, as required by the California Board of Behavioral Science. The County of Orange Health Care Agency maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

American Psychological Association - The County of Orange Health Care Agency is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The County of Orange Health Care Agency maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

California State and ASHA CEUs Pending Approval - SLPs Continuing Education Credits: Licensed Speech Language Pathologists receive 16 hours for 2-days Oct. 11-12, 2008 of Continuing Education Professional Development credit as required by the California Speech Language Pathology and Audiology Board. These credits have no effect on pay scales and salary advancement. They only affect state licensure for SLPs and Audiologists. LACOE PDP19.

Pending Approval - The Los Angeles County Office of Education's Speech Pathology Program, under the Division of Special Education, is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. This program is offered for 16 ASHA CEUs on Oct. 11-12, 2008 (Intermediate level, Professional area). ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products, or clinical procedures. Bring your California SLP license number and your ASHA account number to the conference for CEUs. APPROVED CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE HEARING ASSOCIATION

Occupational Therapists & Physical Therapists - At this time the Board of Occupational Therapy and the California Physical Therapy Board does not have a process in place for continuing education requirements, you will however receive a certificate of completion as described below.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION
A certificate indicating the number of hours of training will be provided to every participant.