The Pediatric Neuropsychology Service in Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics is Growing!

A neuropsychologist assesses the impact of medical conditions or treatments, brain injury, or brain anomalies on cognitive, emotional, and behavioral functioning. The MUSC Pediatric Neuropsychology Service assists children with a wide range of presenting concerns, including but not limited to pediatric cancers and brain tumor, epilepsy, cerebrovascular accidents associated with sickle cell disease, traumatic brain injury, congenital cardiac disease, and some genetic conditions. To date, many families have experienced a lengthy wait in order to access care. We are excited to announce the expansion of our services:

Please join us in welcoming Margaret Hudopohl, PhD!! Dr. Hudopohl is a pediatric neuropsychologist who obtained her doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Georgia State University, followed by specialized training through a pediatric neuropsychology postdoctoral fellowship at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. She established the pediatric neuropsychology service at Dayton Children's Hospital prior to accepting our faculty position. Dr. Hudopohl and her colleagues in the Pediatric Neuropsychology Service, Mary Kral, PhD and Alyssa Schlenz, PhD, continue to provide comprehensive neuropsychological evaluations - now with improved access to care! To make a referral to the Pediatric Neuropsychology Service, enter “Amb referral to pediatric neuropsychology” in the smart phrase tool bar of Meds & Orders in EPIC.

Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics is Changing What’s Possible Through Autism Research!

While there have been considerable advances in autism research, there is still a long way to go in gaining a better understanding of the causes and potential treatments for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Under the direction of Laura Carpenter, PhD, MUSC has joined more than 20 of the nation’s leading medical schools and autism research centers in a collaborative research effort, SPARK (Simons Foundation Powering Autism Research for Knowledge). SPARK is a landmark national autism research project designed to facilitate research that accelerates our understanding of the causes of ASD and how ASD impacts all of those affected. One of our key goals is to enable research that has not been possible before by dramatically increasing the number and diversity of research participants with ASD.

Unlike other genetics autism studies, DNA will be collected and analyzed using saliva kits, which may be shipped to the participants’ homes or collected at MUSC’s SPARK clinic. There is no cost to join SPARK, and individuals with ASD will receive a gift card, valued up to $50, once the saliva kits are returned.

MUSC is grateful for your time and effort in supporting this important work. Would you like brochures and posters for your office? Questions? Please call MUSC’s SPARK Coordinator, Crissy Ortiz, at 843-876-8504, or email SPARKautism@MUSC.edu. Additional information and participant registration also may be found at www.SPARKforAutism.org/musc.

The entire autism community is invited to join SPARK to help establish the largest online autism research cohort committed to accelerating the understanding of Autism Spectrum Disorder!