

FREE Parent-Child Interaction Therapy for Children with Autism and Disruptive Behaviors

Would you like to learn how to improve your relationship with your child and gain confidence in managing his or her difficult behaviors?



WHAT IS PCIT?

Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT; pcit.org) is supported by over 20 years of research and has been shown to provide positive benefits to parent-child interactions, including reductions in parent stress and distress, more positive parenting attitudes, reductions in child behavior problems, and an increase in child compliance and prosocial behaviors.

Therapy consists of two main phases, CDI and PDI:

CDI teaches parents new ways of playing and interacting with their child on the autism spectrum that may help the child to increase positive behaviors and improve his or her connection with parents.

In PDI, parents learn to use effective commands and specific behavior management techniques as they play with their child. Parents are taught effective time out procedures and how to manage children's behaviors at home and in real world settings.

If so, you and your child may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study that seeks to deliver an evidence-based parent intervention program to families of young children with autism spectrum disorder and significant behavioral difficulties (noncompliance, tantrums, defiance).

What will participants do?

- Families will attend with at least one parent approximately 12-14 weekly sessions for 1 hour per week at no cost.
- Parents are taught how to use specific skills and then coached by a therapist while playing with their child during weekly sessions.
- Parents will also be asked to practice their new skills for 5-10 minutes per day with their child at home.
- Because this is a research study, parents and children will be asked to participate in a series of assessments at pre- and post-treatment.
- Sessions will take place at the ASAC clinic on the UM Coral Gables Campus (5665 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Coral Gables, FL)

Who can enroll in this study?

To participate, children must:

- Come from English-speaking households
- Have a prior clinical diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder
- Be between the ages of 3 and 7 years old
- Use phrase speech and have an IQ standard score over 70
- Exhibit significant disruptive behaviors but not be enrolled in ABA

The University of Miami Parent-Child Interaction Therapy Program is directed by Dr. Jason Jent at the Mailman Center for Child Development and funded by The Children's Trust. The Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.

For More Information:

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