



Research Bulletin

Published by the St. Amant Research Centre

March 2009

stamantresearch.ca

You can influence the research agenda

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) are renewing the membership of their Institute Advisory Boards (IABs). CIHR is the Government of Canada's agency responsible for funding health research in Canada. According to CIHR:

“Each of the CIHR's 13 Institutes has an advisory board composed of a diverse group of national and international representatives of the public, private and non-profit sectors, including the research community and health practitioners. [IABs] act in an advisory capacity to the Scientific Directors of the Institutes and to the Governing Council with respect to the full range of Institute activities. These activities include deliberation and evaluation on Institute health research priorities and strategies and implementation plans for engaging the broader research community.”

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/18156.html>

Application details are available at: <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/26486.html>. Applications must be received no later than **March 31st**, 2009.

This renewal presents a unique opportunity for stakeholders to connect research and practice more effectively in the field of developmental disabilities—a major priority identified by participants at the Knowledge Translation workshops hosted by St. Amant Research Centre in 2008.

The **St. Amant Research Centre** is dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities through research and education.

The Research Centre is possible thanks to the generous support of

- University of Manitoba faculties of Nursing, Human Ecology, and Arts.
- The Winnipeg Foundation
- St. Amant Foundation

St. Amant Conference 2009— Call for Papers

St. Amant is accepting submissions for its 18th Annual Conference on Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities and Autism. This year's conference features a **Research Stream**, where presentations will include outcomes of original investigations, reviews of recent scientific findings, or discussions of important conceptual issues. Research topics from all relevant fields and disciplines are encouraged.

Submissions are due **March 31st!** For complete information, please visit:

<http://www.stamant.mb.ca/main/conference.html>

ABA Program Longitudinal Evaluation

The St. Amant Research Centre is conducting a research project entitled "*Longitudinal evaluation of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders graduating from the St. Amant ABA early intervention program.*" This project, funded by Manitoba Family Services and Housing, is led by Dr. C. T. Yu and Toby Martin of the St. Amant Research Centre, St. Amant, and University of Manitoba.

Our team will evaluate the effectiveness of the St. Amant Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA) early intervention program for children with autism, and track the long-term progress of program graduates.

We will learn about the children's ongoing developments in cognitive, communication, social, behavioral and academic domains. We are interested in how these outcomes relate to factors such as the learning environments at school and home, diagnosis, developmental characteristics, past learning in the ABA program, and parent stress. Additionally, we wish to compare the development of children who have and have not completed the ABA program.

This project is important because the results may help us better understand the long-term impact of ABA early intervention. It may therefore help to improve early intervention programs in the future, and inform us of early predictors of outcomes for school-age children.

We are currently recruiting children with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorders who are between approximately 2.5 to 5 years of age, who are **not** currently receiving or waiting to obtain services from St. Amant's ABA Preschool Program.

To receive more information, please contact:

Duong Nguyen, M.A.
Project Coordinator
St. Amant Research Centre
dnguyen@stamant.mb.ca
204.256.4301 ext. 3494

Contact Information

Director: Dr. C.T. Yu
yu@stamant.mb.ca

Researcher: Dr. Bev Temple
templeb@stamant.mb.ca

Researcher: Dr. Shahin Shooshtari
sshooshtari@stamant.mb.ca

Manager: Toby Martin
tmartin@stamant.mb.ca

Admin. Assistant: Quinn Senkow
senkowq@stamant.mb.ca

To discuss partnerships, please contact St. Amant President Dr. Carl Stephens, Ph. (204) 258-7040.
St. Amant Research Centre: 440 River Road, Winnipeg MB R2M 3Z9, Ph. (204) 256-4301; www.stamantresearch.ca