



REFLECTIONS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | JULY 2023 ISSUE

ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES IN THE NEWS

Last month, Dr. Kristin Sohl published an article in the *Journal of Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics* titled *ECHO Autism STAT: A Diagnostic Accuracy Study of Community-Based Primary Care Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder*.

This study aimed to support the idea that highly trained clinicians can accurately and reliably diagnose autism spectrum disorder in children 14 to 48 months. Through the study, Dr. Sohl and her fellow researchers found that 19 out of 20 participants had confirmed diagnoses of ASD by ECHO Autism STAT trained clinicians.

Through these results, the hypothesis was confirmed and the conclusion was drawn that these results can lead to earlier diagnosis and quicker access to early intervention for these children.

You can read the study [HERE](#) or check out the summary on American Academy Pediatrics' website [HERE](#).



PEDIATRIC GRAND ROUNDS LIVE WEBINAR

Last month, Dr. Kristin Sohl joined Dr. Eric Butter, PHD from Nationwide Children's Hospital to present Project ECHO Autism: Moving Knowledge Not People.

This presentation's objectives were to understand the key components of Project ECHO and how the model increases access to more equitable care, describe one to two examples of how ECHO Autism is being used around the world to build capacity for best practice care, and to consider ways to adapt and enhance existing care practices to accelerate dissemination and adoption of best practice care.

Check out the recording of this presentation [HERE](#)!

ECHO AUTISM PROGRAM: EARLY INTERVENTION

What is ECHO Autism: Early Intervention?

It is a virtual learning program where Missouri early intervention professionals who work with young autistic children learn best practice strategies for helping children in the therapy setting. This program aims to increase participant knowledge and confidence in their ability to deliver evidence-based early intervention therapy services for young children on the autism spectrum. Free continuing education credit is available for each ECHO session.

Who should participate?

School and community based early intervention professionals who work with children up to 8 years old including, but not limited to OTs, SLPs, and ABA clinicians.

When do ECHO Autism Early Intervention zoom sessions take place?

The 2nd & 4th Monday of every month from 11:15am – 12:45pm starting September 11, 2023 and ending May 13, 2024.

Each virtual 90-minute session will include:

- Case-based Learning: Participants learn through their peers' real-life case presentations followed by questions and discussions of the best practices for screening, identification of patients with ASD, planning evidence-based treatment, connecting with community resources, and providing family/caregiver support.
- Knowledge Burst: This is a brief didactic presentation provided by one of the autism and developmental experts on topics such as addressing symptoms and presentation of ASD, determining what interventions are considered an evidence-based practice, understanding sensory processing, behavior modification, and common comorbidities that occur in the ASD population. Autism and developmental experts include a speech language pathologist, occupational therapist, special education teacher, pediatrician, BCBA and parent of a child on the autism spectrum.

Free Training Opportunity for Program Participants:

We are excited to offer the ECHO Autism Naturalistic Teaching Strategies training to Missouri clinicians who commit to attending ECHO Autism: Early Intervention program sessions on a regular basis. If you can commit to attending ECHO Autism: Early Intervention sessions on a regular basis, you are cordially invited to register for the ECHO Autism Naturalistic Teaching Strategies training!

There are many different types of naturalistic teaching strategies including incidental teaching, milieu training (mand-model), verbal behavior approach, Pivotal Response Training (PRT). Come to this training to learn more about the strategies, components, and the benefits of Naturalistic Teaching Strategies.

Training Date: October 9, 2023

Training Time: 12:00pm – 3:00pm

If you are interested in joining the program or have questions about the program, please contact, Sarah Towne at sarahtowne@health.missouri.edu



ECHO AUTISM COMMUNITIES PARTNER LAUNCH CLASS OF MAY 2023



We are excited to announce that organizations from Peru and Ecuador attended our Partner Launch Training in May!

Look at these organizations who are changing the world!

- Universidad UTE and INTUS from Ecuador
- Instituto Nacional para la Salud del Niño - Breña from Peru

We are grateful to Autism Speaks for their sponsorship of the ECHO Autism Communities Global Superhub.

