



## **Autism Research Study Announced By Children's Health Council**

***Dr. Glen Elliott of Children's Health Council leads clinical research for local patients***

Autism is an exceptionally complex illness. Autism is a developmental disorder with impairments in social interaction and communication, in addition to restricted, repetitive behaviors. Once considered quite rare, 1 in every 150 children in the United States is now diagnosed with the illness, making it a common developmental disability.

Diagnosis of Autism typically occurs at about 3 years of age. The treatment of the condition is complex, as there is no single known cause or cure. Early childhood is the period during which the symptoms of Autism are clearly observable and children are experiencing rapid developmental changes. Researchers continue to look for more effective behavioral, educational and medical treatments to improve the lives of children with Autism. Therefore, a key to overcoming some of the challenges associated with the condition is early diagnosis and intervention.

A clinical research study is now underway in the Bay Area for children between the ages of 3 and 6 with Autistic Disorder. The goal of the study is to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for children with this condition.

Dr. Glen Elliott of Children's Health Council (CHC) is conducting this clinical research study. CHC believes all children deserve the opportunity to reach their full emotional, educational and developmental potential. CHC seeks participants for this clinical study, based on the following: the children must be at least 3 years old and less than 7 years old; candidates for the study must meet the criteria for Autistic Disorder; and, she or he must have an IQ or developmental quotient (DQ) of at least 50.

Parents must give informed consent for their child to participate in this clinical research study, and must also be willing and able to comply with all study requirements. All clinical study-related care will be provided at no cost, including physical exams, psychological testing, and study medication. Compensation may be available to eligible parents or guardians. Health insurance is not required to participate.

If your child or a child you know has Autism, additional information about this clinical research study and how to participate is available at (800) 314-2597 and at [www.chcautism.com](http://www.chcautism.com).