# Clinical Trial Protocol
# Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

28 May 2026

## The study of efficacy of intercessory prayer on symptoms of children with autism and parental stress

## Protocol summary

**Summary**

There are great challenges in the treatment of autism. In order to assess the efficacy of intercessory prayer on symptoms improvement in autistic children, we designed a randomized clinical trial (RCT) in 30 children with autism described in DSM-4 and ICD-10. The study population will be randomized into intervention and control groups. Both groups will receive the routine therapies. The intervention group will also receive the intervention including two months of intercessory prayer by 5 physicians. Standardized measures including: 1.Gilliam Autism Rating Scales (GARS) Questionnaire 2.Autism Treatment Evaluation Checklist 3.autims social skills profile 4. Parental stress index questionnaire; will be used to assess the efficacy of intercessory prayer treatment on improvement of the autism symptoms, as well as the parental stress level.

## General information

**Acronym**

**IRCT registration information**

IRCT registration number: **IRCT138808202698N1**
Registration date: **2010-10-10, 1389/07/18**
Registration timing: **registered_while_recruiting**

Last update:
Update count: **0**

**Registration date**

2010-10-10, 1389/07/18

**Registrant information**

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Batool Mousavi
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**Recruitment status**

**Recruitment complete**

**Funding source**

Family Research Institute

**Expected recruitment start date**

2010-08-11, 1389/05/20

**Expected recruitment end date**

2011-08-26, 1390/06/04

**Actual recruitment start date**

empty

**Actual recruitment end date**

empty

**Trial completion date**

empty

**Scientific title**

The study of efficacy of intercessory prayer on symptoms of children with autism and parental stress

**Public title**

Efficacy of intercessory prayer on severity of symptoms of children with autism and parental stress

**Purpose**

Treatment

**Inclusion/Exclusion criteria**

Definitive Diagnosis of Autism based on DSM- 4

**Age**

From **3 years** old to **9 years** old

**Gender**

Both

**Phase**

1

**Groups that have been masked**

*No information*

**Sample size**

Target sample size: **30**

**Randomization (investigator's opinion)**
Randomized

**Randomization description**

**Blinding (investigator's opinion)**
Double blinded

**Blinding description**

**Placebo**
Not used

**Assignment**
Parallel

**Other design features**

## Secondary Ids

empty

## Ethics committees

### 1

**Ethics committee**

**Name of ethics committee**
Family Research Institude

**Street address**
Shahid Beheshti University

**City**
Tehran

**Postal code**

**Approval date**
2010-06-13, 1389/03/23

**Ethics committee reference number**
62/850/ص

## Health conditions studied

### 1

**Description of health condition studied**
Childhood Autism

**ICD-10 code**
F84.0

**ICD-10 code description**
Childhood autism

## Primary outcomes

### 1

**Description**
verbal skills

**Timepoint**
2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

**Method of measurement**
Gilliam Autism Rating Scale-GARS- Questionnaire by the trainers and Autism Treatment and Evaluation Checklist by the parent

### 2

**Description**
social skills

**Timepoint**
2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

**Method of measurement**
Gilliam Autism Rating Scale-GARS- Questionnaire by trainers and Autism Treatment Evaluation Checklist and autims social skills profile by parent

### 3

**Description**
sterotyped behavior

**Timepoint**
2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

**Method of measurement**
Autism Treatment Checklist by Parent, Gilliam Autism Rating Scale-GARS- by Trainers

### 4

**Description**
cognitive and sensory awareness

**Timepoint**
2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

**Method of measurement**
Autism treatment evaluation checklist by the parent

## Secondary outcomes

### 1

**Description**
parental stress

**Timepoint**
2 weeks before the study, at the beginning of the study and once per month while intervention is underway, and one month after the last intervention

**Method of measurement**
parental stress index questionnaire by the parents

## Intervention groups

### 1

**Description**
Intervention group: They will receive both their routine treatment and intercessory prayer for 8 weeks- 3 times per week for 10 minutes. 5 phisicians will accomplish the intervention

**Category**
Treatment - Other

**2**

**Description**
Control group: The group will receive their routine treatment but not the intervention
**Category**
N/A

## Recruitment centers

**1**

**Recruitment center**
**Name of recruitment center**
Center for the treatment of autistic disorders
**Full name of responsible person**
Dr Hamid Reza Pouretemad
**Street address**
**City**
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## Sponsors / Funding sources

**1**

**Sponsor**
**Name of organization / entity**
Family Research Institude
**Full name of responsible person**
Dr Hamid Reza Pouretemad
**Street address**
Shahid Beheshti University
**City**
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**Grant name**
**Grant code / Reference number**
**Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?**
Yes
**Title of funding source**
Family Research Institude
**Proportion provided by this source**
100
**Public or private sector**
*empty*
**Domestic or foreign origin**
*empty*
**Category of foreign source of funding**
*empty*
**Country of origin**
**Type of organization providing the funding**
*empty*

## Person responsible for general inquiries

**Contact**
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## Person responsible for scientific inquiries

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## Sharing plan

**Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)**
*empty*
**Study Protocol**
*empty*
**Statistical Analysis Plan**
*empty*
**Informed Consent Form**
*empty*
**Clinical Study Report**
*empty*
**Analytic Code**
*empty*
**Data Dictionary**
*empty*