

M.A.R.B.L.E.S.

Markers of Autism Risk in Babies-- Learning Early Signs

PREGNANT WOMEN NEEDED FOR AUTISM STUDY

Markers of Autism Risk in Babies - Learning Early Signs (MARBLEs) will enroll women who have a child diagnosed with autism and who are currently pregnant or who plan to become pregnant in the near future. We will then learn everything we can about their lives in an effort to see whether there is anything unusual that occurs during pregnancy that may be associated with the later diagnosis of autism.

Their babies will be followed for 3 years.

Women will need to be at least 18 years of age, be the biological mother of a child diagnosed with autism, live within 2 hours of UC Davis, and who are currently pregnant or have a high likelihood of becoming pregnant in the near future.

Participation for the mother involves a medical history, responses to a series of surveys and questionnaires, collection of blood, urine during pregnancy. At delivery, the placenta and some cord blood will be collected, and breastmilk samples will be collected in the postpartum period for those who will nurse their babies. Babies will undergo periodic behavioral testing and collection of saliva and blood. Study personnel will come to the home to collect this information, including blood and other samples. Dust samples will be collected from the home. Stipends will be paid for participation.

The Principal Investigator of this study is Dr. Irva Hertz-Picciotto, Department of Public Health Sciences at UC Davis.

Call toll-free at 866-550-5027 for more
information.