

Summer Student Research Program
Project Description

FACULTY SPONSOR'S NAME AND DEGREE: Walter Zahorodny, PhD

PHONE: (973) 972 - 6577

DEPARTMENT AND INTERNAL MAILING ADDRESS: Pediatrics Department, NJMS,
185 South Orange Avenue, Room F540, Newark, NJ 07101

E-MAIL: zahorodn@njms.rutgers.edu

PROJECT TITLE (200 Characters max):

Prevalence and Characteristics of Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

HYPOTHESIS:

The prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) among adolescents in the New Jersey surveillance region will be in the range of 20 to 25 per 1,000. New information regarding the distribution and characteristics of ASD will be provided by this (first) investigation using active ASD case finding in a large population of adolescents.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Include design, methodology, data collection, techniques, data analysis to be employed and evaluation and interpretation methodology)

We will systematically score and analyze case-specific information from active, population-based, ASD surveillance of adolescents in New Jersey to establish prevalence in a diverse and defined region (Union County) and to define the distribution and characteristics of ASD.

SPONSOR'S MOST RECENT PUBLICATIONS RELEVANT TO THIS RESEARCH:

J Baio, L Wiggins Christensen, W Zahorodny, et al, "Prevalence of autism spectrum disorder among children aged 8 years—Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, 11 Sites, United States", MMWR, 2018, 67(6): 1-23.

THIS PROJECT IS: Clinical Laboratory Behavioral Other

THIS PROJECT IS CANCER-RELATED

Please explain Cancer relevance

THIS PROJECT IS HEART, LUNG & BLOOD- RELATED

Please explain Heart, Lung, Blood relevance

THIS PROJECT INVOLVE RADIOISOTOPES?

THIS PROJECT INVOLVES THE USE OF ANIMALS

PENDING

APPROVED

IACUC PROTOCOL #

THIS PROJECT INVOLVES THE USE OF HUMAN SUBJECTS?

PENDING

APPROVED IRB PROTOCOL # 0120010288

Summer Student Research Program
Project Description

THIS PROJECT IS SUITABLE FOR:

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ENTERING FRESHMAN
SOPHOMORES ALL STUDENTS

THIS PROJECT IS WORK-STUDY: Yes or No

**THIS PROJECT WILL BE POSTED DURING ACADEMIC YEAR
FOR INTERESTED VOLUNTEERS:** Yes or No

WHAT WILL THE STUDENT LEARN FROM THIS EXPERIENCE?

The student researcher will learn the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Autism and Developmental Disorders Monitoring (ADDM) Network epidemiologic methods & analytic strategies and conduct needed case finding activities under supervision of the investigators. The researcher will learn the principles of active case finding, prevalence determination and data presentation. The student will learn about the defining characteristics of ASD, intellectual disability and related developmental disorders. The student will learn to present findings to a professional audience.