



LOCAL CONTACT
DETAILS

The Paediatric Autism Communication Trial – Generalised (PACT-G) Parent Information Sheet

What is this study about?

This research study will test whether the new PACT-G social communication therapy helps improve symptoms in children with autism across different settings (home and nursery or school). A similar therapy used with parents in a previous study helped children communicate more with their parents, but not with other adults.

Why are we asking you?

You are a parent of a child between 2 and 11 years of age who has been diagnosed with autism and you speak sufficient English to be able to complete our assessments and take part in the therapy.

What will happen if I take part?

If you want to take part in the PACT-G trial, we will contact your child's nursery or school to ask them also to join the study.

❖ *Baseline Assessments*

First, one of our research team will meet with you and your child to do some assessments. These will confirm that your child can take part in the study. If your child is not eligible, we will let you know and give you a written summary of our assessments.

Then, you and the key person in your child's school/nursery will fill out some questionnaires and we will video record some assessments, including your child playing at home and in school/nursery.

❖ *Other assessments throughout the study*

After 6 months: A short interview with you and a brief recording of you and your child playing.

After 8 months: A brief recording of your child playing in nursery/school.

After 1 year: We will repeat some of the assessments to see how things may have changed for you and your child over time.

Your expenses will be paid back and you will receive a £40 voucher.

❖ *Who will receive PACT-G therapy?*

Half of children in the study will receive the PACT-G therapy and half of the children will not.

Everyone will continue with their usual health and education services. This will allow us to see whether this therapy will help or not. Who gets PACT-G therapy is decided completely by chance, using a computer programme.

❖ *PACT-G therapy*

PACT-G consists of 12 sessions with a speech and language therapist (SLT), about half will take place at home and half via telephone/skype. Parents will make video recordings of their child playing, and during the session watch the recordings with the SLT to work out together what might help the child communicate more. Parents will also practice the new play skills at home.

The SLT will also work in nursery/school with a key person who will practice the new play skills with the child.

The parent and key person will meet each month to talk about the child's progress.

What are the benefits of taking part?

Summary reports of your child's assessments will be provided.

What are the possible disadvantages or risks?

There is a time commitment for all families but we aim to fit in as best as we can with what suits each family. In previous study families usually found they could fit in the assessments.

Contact for Further Information

More information is available on the longer version of the Parent Information Sheet provided and by contacting:

[Add contact details for each site]

Thank you for reading this Information Sheet.