

I'm a researcher at Cambridge in the Autism Research Centre working with Prof. Simon Baron-Cohen and I am running a child development study where we are looking at early development in pregnancy in families with no history of autism as well as those with.

To give you an overview of the study:

If you would like to participate, you will be invited for a 3D ultrasound scan at the Rosie Maternity Hospital in Cambridge. This scan will last approximately 45 minutes and is a non-invasive scan similar to the one's you've had at 12- and 20-weeks. There will be two follow up visits at 18months (post/online questionnaires only) and an in-person visit to the Autism Research Centre, Cambridge when your child is 24 months old. We will reimburse all travel expenses and hotel accommodation, and you will receive an additional £20/visit for the follow-up visits. A cheque will be sent to you after each visit. Additionally, we will provide pictures of your baby from your ultrasound scan.

The aim of this research is to see if there are any physical characteristics in pregnancy that might be related to later autistic traits in childhood. The overall aim is to help support children who might be later diagnosed with ASC and their families from as early as possible. The scan is done during late 2nd trimester and early 3rd. Our intention is not to develop a screening for autism in pregnancy, it is to help provide more support for children thought to be 'at risk' and their families from an earlier age.

I have attached my poster, a short blurb and the information sheet to give you a clearer idea of what I'll be doing and share around (if possible). If you have any questions about my work or would like to discuss this study, it would be lovely to speak to you please contact me on: ea420@medschl.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746 051.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes,

Ezra

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