Our Mission

Attention Deficit/Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD) is the most common childhood behavioral disorder affecting 3-5% of school-age children and 4% of adults. Individuals with ADHD may act quickly without thinking and interrupt others (impulsivity), fidget, have difficulty sitting still and staying on-task (hyperactivity), or daydream and get easily sidetracked (inattention). ADHD impacts school, work, friendships and daily functioning. It requires lifelong management and can be paired with depression or learning disorders. The UC Davis MIND Institute ADHD Team is leading the field with research into the causes of ADHD and its impact on the lives of individuals, families and society. We bring hope and help to families experiencing ADHD by researching more accurate diagnoses and expanding treatment options for ADHD. Our goals are to better understand and treat impulsivity, to improve attention, and to help individuals with ADHD succeed in school and work. We know that those affected by ADHD have amazing potential and it is our mission to enable each patient to achieve their best.

Recent findings by the ADHD team include...

- Telemedicine methods can effectively be used for parent training in ADHD—a breakthrough for parents without local access to therapists
- Children with ADHD work just as hard, but use increased and less efficient brain activity in working memory problems
- 1/3 of adolescents with ADHD are likely to drop out of high school
- Computerized cognitive training games can improve attention during academic tasks for children with ADHD
Khyati Brahmbhatt, M.D.
ADHD Program Psychiatrist
Dr. Brahmbhatt is a board certified Child Psychiatrist. In addition to working with the ADHD Program, Dr. Brahmbhatt is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at UC Davis School of Medicine and director of the pediatric consultation-liaison service at the UC Davis Medical Center.

Kyle Rutledge, M.S.
Graduate Student Researcher
Mr. Rutledge is a Ph.D. candidate in the Dept. of Human Development, UC Davis. His research interests include ADHD in children and adults, cognition and behavior, and treatment effectiveness.

Tadeus Hartanto, B.S.
Mr. Hartanto has a degree in Psychobiology from UC Davis and research interests in developmental disorders and clinical psychology.

Erin Calfee, B.A.
Ms. Calfee has a degree in History from Brown University and assists with data collection and research recruitment.

ADHD Program Volunteers
Elizabeth Bisi  Caitlin Critz
Kathryn Dulla  Ayla Kapahi
Adam Petchers

How to get involved
2012 is an exciting time for the ADHD program as we continue current treatment trials and begin new ones. Our innovative research depends on community support. Please consider participating in a study, referring others, or making a donation to help us find answers for families living with ADHD.

Current clinical research studies by the ADHD team include...

- **Cognitive Control and Reward Processing in ADHD:** We are conducting the largest, longitudinal functional neuroimaging study of brain development of impulsivity in ADHD and typical development adolescents and young adults in the U.S. This project will recruit 200 teenagers and young adults and study how brain development relates to self-control, risk-taking, academic and occupational functioning in youths with and without ADHD to provide clues for intervention. Individuals will be assessed using cognitive and achievement testing, behavioral computer tasks, and brain imaging (fMRI). All participants (ages 12-25) will be compensated for their time. (NIMH/NIH-PI: Schweitzer)

- **Identifying Cognitive and Neural Risk Factors for Substance Dependence in ADHD:** We are studying behavior and related neural activity in adults with ADHD and adults that have been dependent on methamphetamine in the past to help us understand how to prevent illicit drug dependence in ADHD. The study compares attention and memory brain activity in adults with ADHD, past methamphetamine dependence, both, and neither. Participants (ages 18-50) complete computer tasks and fMRI scans. (NIDA/NIH-PI: Fassbender)

- **Comparison between Parent Training and Computerized Cognitive Training in ADHD:** We are testing the effectiveness of a parent training and a home-based computer program, both designed to improve attention and memory in children with ADHD. All participants (ages 6-12) complete both 6-8 week treatments.

Recent research publications by the ADHD team include...


