

**UCLA**

**David Geffen School of Medicine**

# Advances in Autism 2025

## Translating Research to Clinical Practice



**Friday, April 4, 2025**

**Tamkin Auditorium  
Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center  
Los Angeles, California**

**UCLA CART**  
Center for Autism Research and Treatment

## Course Description

Join us either in-person or online Friday, April 4, 2025 for UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment's (CART) annual scientific symposium presenting the latest updates on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) research and treatment across the lifespan. Nationally renowned UCLA CART faculty will explore a range of topics, including genetics, early childhood behavioral intervention, neuroscience, and biomedical approaches, with a focus on translating these findings into clinical practice. Following each presentation, a distinguished panel of clinicians and community discussants will join the speaker to engage in in-depth discussions. We invite you to engage with the panelists during each live Q&A to enhance your understanding of ASD. To be eligible for 4.25 Continuing Education (CE) credits for this activity, learners must attend in-person or virtual live course on April 4, 2025.

## Course Objectives

At the end of the course, learners will be able to:

- Explore an overview of clinical practices and autism.
- Understand the interplay between genetics and clinical practice.
- Describe Parent-Child Intervention Therapy for children with autism and related neurodevelopmental disabilities.
- Examine how neuroscience can inform clinical practice for autism.
- Review biomedical approaches for autism.

## Target Audience

This hybrid annual symposium is designed for anyone interested in the latest breakthroughs in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) research and treatment, including healthcare providers, autism service providers, teachers, self-advocates, and families.

## Course Recording

All registrants (live or virtual) will be provided the opportunity to review recorded sessions up to 3 weeks following the conference.

The recorded sessions are not approved for Continuing Education (CE) credit.

# Live Hybrid Program – Friday, April 4, 2025

9:30 am Registration and Breakfast

9:45 – 10:00 Welcome  
*Daniel Geschwind, MD, PhD*

## OVERVIEW

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Moderator: *Elizabeth Laugeson, PsyD*

10:00 – 10:30 An Overview of Intervention Science: What We Know and Still Don't Know  
Speaker: *Connie Kasari, PhD*

## GENETICS

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Moderator: *Rujuta Wilson, MD, MS*

10:30 – 11:20 The Role of Genetics in Autism  
Speaker and panelist: *Daniel Geschwind, MD, PhD*  
Panel Discussion:  
Clinician: *Julian A. Martinez-Agosto MD, PhD, FACMG*  
Community Discussant

11:20 – 11:35 BREAK

## BEHAVIORAL APPROACHES IN CHILDHOOD

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Moderator: *Amanda Gulsrud, PhD*

11:35 – 12:25 The Promise of Parent-Child Interaction Therapy for Children with Autism and Related Neurodevelopmental Disabilities  
Speaker and Panelist: *Nicole McDonald, PhD*  
Panel Discussion:  
Clinician: *Patricia Renno, PhD*  
Community Discussant

12:25 – 1:30 LUNCH  
Lunch Service • Poster Session • Resource Fair

*\*Lunch, Poster and Resource Fair available for in-person only.*

# Live Virtual Program – Friday, April 4, 2025

## BEHAVIORAL APPROACHES IN NEUROSCIENCE

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Moderator: *Abigail Dickinson, PhD*

1:30 – 2:20      How Neuroscience Can Inform Interventions in Autism:  
Examples from Sensory Over-Responsivity Research  
Speaker and Panelist: *Shulamite Green, PhD*

Panel Discussion:

Clinician: *Gil Hoftman, MD, PhD*

Community Discussant

2:20 – 2:35      BREAK

## BIOMEDICAL APPROACHES

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Moderator: *Rajsekar Rajaraman, MD, MS*

2:35 – 3:25      Discovering Opportunities through Biomedical and Technological  
Innovation: Insights from Autism Research  
Speaker and Panelist: *Suma Jacob, MD, PhD*

Panel Discussion:

Clinician: *Brandon Ito, MD, MPH*

Community Discussant

3:25 – 3:30      Adjourn  
*Daniel Geschwind, MD, PhD*

# Faculty

## SYMPOSIUM CHAIR

### **Daniel Geschwind, MD, PhD**

Gordon and Virginia MacDonald Distinguished Professor in Departments of Neurology, Psychiatry and Human Genetics\*  
Senior Associate Dean and Associate Vice Chancellor, Precision Health  
Director, Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART)

## UCLA COURSE FACULTY

### **Abigail Dickinson, PhD**

Assistant Professor in Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences\*  
UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior  
UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment (CART)

### **Shulamite Green, PhD**

Assistant Professor in Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences\*  
UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior  
UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment (CART)

### **Amanda C. Gulsrud, PhD**

Associate Clinical Professor in Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Science\*  
UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior  
Clinical Director, Child and Adult Neurodevelopmental (CAN) Clinic  
UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART)

### **Gil Hotfman, MD, PhD**

Adjunct Assistant Professor  
Child, Adolescent, Adult Psychiatrist  
Developmental Neuroscientist  
Department of Psychiatry & Biobehavioral Sciences  
UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience & Human Behavior  
Founder, Helix Neuropsychiatric Center

### **Brandon S. Ito, MD, MPH**

Assistant Clinical Professor in Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Science  
Clerkship Chair of Psychiatry, UCLA Department of Psychiatry & Biobehavioral Sciences  
Director of Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, UCLA Tarjan Center  
UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART)

### **Suma Jacob, MD, PhD**

Professor & Division Director  
Child & Adolescent Psychiatry\*  
Della Martin Chair of Psychiatry  
UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior  
UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment (CART)

### **Connie Kasari, PhD**

Distinguished Professor\*  
Human Development & Psychology  
UCLA School of Education & Information Studies  
UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART)

### **Elizabeth Laugeson, PsyD**

Clinical Professor\*  
Founder and Director, UCLA PEERS Clinic  
Director, UCLA Tarjan Center UCEDD  
UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART)

### **Julian A. Martinez-Agosto MD, PhD, FACMG**

Associate Professor  
Department of Human Genetics  
Division of Medical Genetics, Department of Pediatrics  
Department of Psychiatry,\* Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior  
California Center for Rare Diseases  
UCLA Undiagnosed Diseases Network  
Director, Care and Research In NeuroGenetics Program (CARING)  
Co-Director, Pediatric Cancer Predisposition Clinic

### **Nicole McDonald, PhD**

Assistant Clinical Professor in Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences\*  
UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment (CART)

### **Rajsekar Rajaraman, MD, MS**

Associate Professor in Pediatric Neurology and Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences\*  
Director of the UCLA Tuberous Sclerosis Center of Excellence  
UCLA CDKL5 Center of Excellence  
UCLA Center for Autism Research & Treatment (CART)

### **Patricia Renno, PhD**

Assistant Clinical Professor in Psychology and Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences\*  
Clinical Psychologist, Child and Adult Neurodevelopmental (CAN) Clinic  
UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior  
UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment

### **Rujuta B. Wilson, MD, MS**

Assistant Professor in Pediatrics and Psychiatry\*  
UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment (CART)

\*David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

# General Information

## Fee

\$225 Physicians and Doctoral Level Professionals

\$205 Nurses and Allied Health Professionals

\$125 Non -Healthcare

## Opportunity Fund

UCLA CART has established the Opportunity Fund to help support under-resourced members of our community attend this event. For more information, contact UCLA CART at [UCLACART@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:UCLACART@mednet.ucla.edu). Availability is limited.

## Enrollment

### Online

We accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit cards.

To register using a credit card or ACH/electronic transfer, please visit <https://ucla.cloud-cme.com/Autism25>

\*Credit card and check payments via phone, fax, or mail are no longer accepted.

If you have questions, please contact the UCLA Center for Continuing Professional Development at [CCPD@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:CCPD@mednet.ucla.edu) or 310.794.2620.

## Refunds

Cancellations must be received by Friday, March 14, 2025 via email to [CCPD@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:CCPD@mednet.ucla.edu), and will be subject to a \$50 processing fee. No refunds will be granted after that date. If, for any reason, the course must be cancelled, discontinued, or rescheduled, a full refund will be provided.

## Accreditation

The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA designates this live activity for a maximum of 4.25 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

The California State Board of Registered Nursing accepts courses approved for the *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>™</sup> as meeting the continuing education requirements for license renewal. Nurses from states other than California should inquire with their local State Board for specific continuing education policies.

## Disclosure Statement

The FDA has issued a concept paper that classifies commercial support of scientific and educational programs as promotional unless it can be affirmed that the program is “truly independent” and free of commercial influence. In addition to independence, the FDA requires that non-promotional, commercially supported education be objective, balanced, and scientifically rigorous. The policy further states that all potential conflicts of interest of the CME staff and faculty be fully disclosed to the program’s participants. In addition, Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education policy mandates that the sponsor adequately manage all identified potential conflicts of interest prior to the program. We, at UCLA, fully endorse the letter and spirit of these concepts.

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To register online, visit <https://ucla.cloud-cme.com/Autism25>

Course Title and Number

C02701

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- \$225 Physicians and Doctoral Level Professionals
- \$205 Nurses and Allied Health Professionals
- \$125 Non -Healthcare