

Spring 2018



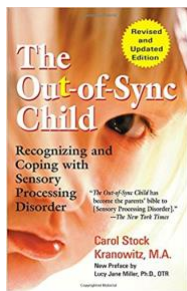
SNAP Spring Newsletter

Clinics

As we grow and change this spring, one of our SNAP cognitive and behavioral neurologists, **Dr. Jessica Litwin** will be moving back to Denver, Colorado and working at Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children! We are thrilled for Jessica, and her son Izzy, and wish them the best in Colorado!

Spring Fundraiser

We are excited for the **Starry Starry Community Breakfast** to raise awareness for sensory processing differences. **Dr. Elysa Marco** is honored to join **Carol Kranowitz**, author of "The Out-Of-Sync Child", a book about sensory processing disorder that has sold over 1 million copies! The breakfast will take place at the Original Joe's Westlake in Daly City. It starts at 8:30AM on June 8th and we would love for you to join us! For more information, check out:



[Breakfast Information](#)

Congratulations

Carly Demopoulos, one of our SNAP researchers, has just been awarded an NIH grant to study the mechanisms of speech production in children with neurodevelopmental disorders!

Recently Published

SPD Genetics

Our SNAP study investigating the genetic contributors to SPD has just been accepted for publication! We show that 18% of children with isolated SPD have a strong single genetic mutation. In addition, our children with SPD and their parents have an increase in small changes in critical neurodevelopment genes. We find a similar trend in children with autism and their parents. With a greater understanding of the genetic causes of SPD, we are optimistic that we can refine clinical evaluation and improve care. [SPD Genetics Research](#)

Attention and Visuomotor Control

This recently published SNAP study investigated attention and visuomotor processing. Using a digital assessment tool, we found that many, but not all, children with ASD and SPD have measurable challenges in these abilities. We know that these abilities are critical to learning in a school setting. This work will allow us to take the needed next steps in translating this finding to improve the assessment and treatment of our children with neurodevelopmental differences. [Click here to read more](#)

Current Studies

Pediatric Body Brain Trainer (pediBBT)

UCSF SNAP researchers are partnering with an elementary school in Marin County to study whether training the mind and body, with video game technology, can help a child's attention and memory.



UCSF AVIATION Study

Dr. Bob Hendren is currently enrolling children ages 5-17 years old with autism for a treatment study using Vasopressin. This study aims to improve social and communication behaviors. For more information, please direct questions to Felicia.widjaja@ucsf.edu or 415-476-780

SNAP Support

SNAP research is largely funded by our community, that means YOU! Thank you for your contributions. Every dollar counts in our goal to help every child reach their full potential! So far, we have raised \$70,000, which is 70% of our goal! We need YOU to help us get to 100%! [SPD Crowd Funding Website](#)