

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Research Participant Information and Consent Form

**Title of Study:** Use of Video Tele-conferencing to Support Parents of Children with Developmental Disabilities

**Principal Investigator:** Wendy Machalicek, Ph.D., Board Certified Behavior Analyst Doctoral Level (BCBA-D). University of Wisconsin-Madison. Department of Rehabilitation Psychology and Special Education. (phone: 608-263-5791) (email: [machalicek@wisc.edu](mailto:machalicek@wisc.edu)) 432 East Campus Mall, Rm. 310. Madison, WI 53706.

**What is the purpose of this study?**

You are invited to participate in a research study that will evaluate the use of videoconferencing equipment (e.g., laptop computer, Broadband Internet, external web camera) as a tool to deliver support and education to parents of children who engage in challenging behavior.

This study will include children, ages 3-9 years, with a diagnosis of a developmental disability (e.g., autism, Down syndrome, intellectual disability, mental retardation), who engage in challenging behavior such as aggression, tantrums, “stimming”, or self-injurious behaviors (e.g., head hitting) and their parent. Research will take place in the child's home with support and feedback provided to parents via videoconferencing.

**What will my participation involve?**

Prior to each session, you will need to spend approximately 15-30 minutes setting up the videoconferencing equipment. You will need to connect the laptop and web camera, log into your videoconferencing account with a username and password, and ensure that you have a working Internet connection. Each piece of equipment and cable will be clearly labeled and you will receive written instructions and a short video demonstrating the steps necessary to set up the equipment. The investigator will be available by telephone just before scheduled videoconferencing meetings to support you in case of technological difficulty.

You will implement 2 assessments with your child. A Preference Assessment to identify highly preferred toys or activities for your child and a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) to identify the reason(s) why your child engages in challenging behavior. The investigator will be available during both assessments by videoconferencing to provide support and feedback.

The Preference Assessment will involve providing your child with several preferred toys and asking them to choose their favorite toy. The toys chosen or the amount of time spent interacting with the toys will be measured in order to rank your child’s relative preference

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for a given toy. These toys will be used in the FBA. The Preference Assessment will last 45 minutes.

The FBA will involve a 90 minute session including (a) playing with your child continuously, (b) not interacting with your child while they play, (c) only interacting with your child if they engage in challenging behavior, and (d) instructing your child on a relevant skill.

Based on the results of the FBA, you will be presented with several antecedent or consequence intervention strategies that match the reason(s) why your child engages in challenging behavior. For instance, the FBA may suggest that your child tantrums to obtain your attention. Possible intervention strategies may include (a) teaching your child to tap on your shoulder to get your attention, (b) scheduling 15 minutes of play time with your child immediately before situations where they usually tantrum to obtain your attention, or (c) providing brief attention (e.g., *You're playing nicely*) to your child every 2 minutes independent of their behavior. The investigator will coach you via videoconferencing to try the intervention strategies with your child. Based on your child's reaction to the strategies and your preference, you will choose one of the practiced intervention strategies to try out over a longer period of time. You will continue to regularly implement the selected intervention with support provided by the investigator via videoconferencing until your child's challenging behavior decreases to levels acceptable to you. Following the termination of intervention, monthly follow up sessions will continue for the next 3 months. Your participation will last approximately 30-90 minutes per session and will require 22 sessions, which will require approximately 11 hours in total.

**Are there any risks to me or my child?**

In every study there are risks. However, we do not anticipate any risks beyond what you encounter day to day in dealing with your child's challenging behavior.

**Are there any benefits to me?**

The results of this research may provide information to help you decrease your child's challenging behavior at home. We also hope that the results of this research will benefit society by exploring the possibility of using these techniques and equipment to help assess children and train parents in geographical areas where experts may not be available.

**Will I receive compensation for my participation in this study?**

You will not receive any compensation for participating in this research.

**Who should I contact if I have questions?**

You may ask any questions about the research at any time. If you have questions about the research after you leave today you should contact the Principal Investigator Wendy Machalicek, Ph.D., BCBA-D at 608-898-2279. If you are not satisfied with response of

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research team, have more questions, or want to talk with someone about your rights as a research participant, contact the Education Research and Social & Behavioral Science IRB Office at 608-263-2320.

**How will my confidentiality be protected?**

Authorized persons from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Institutional Review Board have the legal right to review your research records and will protect the confidentiality of those records to the extent permitted by law. If the research project is sponsored then the sponsor also has the legal right to review your research records. Otherwise, your research records will not be released without your consent unless required by law or a court order. You will be audio and videotaped during this research. Since data will be transmitted from computer to computer this transmission will be encrypted using 128-bit encryption through a VPN server. Access to the data will be limited to appropriate research staff. The data will be retained in the principal investigator's office for a period of 5 years and will then be destroyed. In any written or oral report arising from this research, the data will be presented so that you and your child will not be identified or identifiable.

**Signatures:** Your participation is completely voluntary. If you decide not to participate or to withdraw from the study it will have no effect on any services or treatment you are currently receiving.

Your signature indicates that you have read this consent form, had an opportunity to ask any questions about your participation in this research and voluntarily consent to participate. You will receive a copy of this form for your records.

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Printed Name of Your Child

Date

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Please Print Your Name(s)

Date

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Signature of Parent(s) or Legal Guardians

Date

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Signature of Principal Investigator

Date

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