

Evaluating an Intensive Behavioral Intervention for Children and Adolescents with Fragile X Syndrome

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What is the best way to help children with fragile X learn new skills? What brain areas are involved in acquiring these skills? These are just a few of the questions that this project hopes to answer. The research aims to test an intensive behavior analytic intervention program to improve cognitive and behavioral function in adolescents and young adults with fragile X. Each child will receive intensive skills training on basic math, money and reading skills using a computer program designed to maximize each child's learning potential. To determine whether the intervention is effective, skills acquisition will be carefully tracked as well as brain imaging of key areas involved in learning. This combined information may represent a more precise evaluation of the intervention's mechanism of action and lead to further refinement of interventions.

Participation

It is hoped that at least twenty adolescent boys and girls diagnosed with Fragile X syndrome will take part in this study. Each participant will receive intensive skills training conducted over three days at Stanford University. Participants will then take the program home with them, and their progress will be monitored for two weeks.

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