



Translational Centre for Speech Disorders

Centre of Research Excellence



Research into speech change with methylphenidate (Ritalin) in children with apraxia of speech

We are running a project looking at whether speech improves in children with apraxia of speech who take methylphenidate (Ritalin). By improving our understanding of how well different therapies work for apraxia of speech, we hope to develop more targeted therapies.

We are looking for individuals:

- aged 6 to 12 years
- with childhood apraxia of speech. If your child does not have a confirmed diagnosis, we will assess their speech.
- who can complete spoken tasks
- who do not have epilepsy, congenital heart disease, severe Tourette Syndrome, severe intellectual disability
- who live within 250km of Murdoch Children's Research Institute
- who have some inattentive and/or hyperactive symptoms. If you are unsure whether your child has these symptoms, we will measure these.

What is involved?

- Taking part in a study over 8 weeks + 2 days.
- Completing a screening assessment at the Royal Children's Hospital. If eligible, children will take medication for 4 weeks and a placebo for 4 weeks. The order of taking these pills is randomly chosen.
- Children will also complete 4 speech testing sessions via Zoom.

Translational Centre for Speech Disorders
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About us

The Translational Centre of Research Excellence for Speech Disorders examines speech and language in individuals with rare genetic conditions.

We are trying to better understand the strengths and difficulties of communication in children with rare genetic syndromes. Our longer-term aim is to help develop better targeted therapies.

GET IN TOUCH!

If you or someone you know may be interested in helping with this research, we would love to hear from you. Contact us at:

speechtrial@mcri.edu.au

Register your interest



This project has been approved by the
Royal Children's Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee
(RCH HREC Reference Number 77169)