



February 2014 Edition

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Autism hits Somali kids harder, University of Minnesota study finds- By DONALD G. McNEIL Jr.

A long-awaited study has confirmed the fears of Somali residents in Minneapolis that their children suffer from higher rates of a disabling form of autism compared with other children there.

The study — by the University of Minnesota, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the research and advocacy group Autism Speaks — found high rates of autism in two populations: About one Somali child in 32 and one white child in 36 in Minneapolis were on the autism spectrum.

The national average is one child in 88, according to [Coleen A. Boyle](#), who directs the C.D.C.'s Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities.

But the Somali children were less likely than the whites to be “high-functioning” and more likely to have I.Q.s below 70. (The average I.Q. score is 100.)

The study offered no explanation of the statistics.

“We do not know why more Somali and white children were identified,” said [Amy S. Hewitt](#), the project’s primary investigator and director of the University of Minnesota’s Research and Training Center on Community Living.

“This project was not designed to answer these questions.”

The results echoed those of [a Swedish study](#) published last year finding that children from immigrant families in Stockholm — many of them Somali — were more likely to have autism with intellectual disabilities.

The Minneapolis study also found that Somali children with autism received their diagnoses late. Age 5 was the average, while autism and learning disabilities can be diagnosed as early as age 2, and children get the most benefit from behavioral treatment when it is started early.

Black American-born children and Hispanic children in Minneapolis had much lower autism rates: one in 62 for the former and one in 80 for the latter.

The study had limitations. The authors did not examine children directly, but reviewed the 2010 clinical and educational records of about 5,000 children ages 7 to 9 and made estimates. All the autistic Somali children in the study had I.Q. deficits, Dr. Hewitt said. ...Continued in page 3...

... Autism hits Somali Kids Harder... from page 2

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“Autism is silencing the kids of a nation of poets,” continued Ms. Abdull, who has spoken about the issue at the United Nations.

“Whether it’s something in our genes and you add it to Minnesota snow or what, I don’t know, but something’s triggering autism. My dad taught me to recite poetry at age 4, and my kid is 11 and he can’t say two sentences. It’s heartbreaking.”

Dr. Hewitt and Mr. Rosanoff say they want to see more research comparing Somali children with autism to those without, including intelligence testing and genetic workups.

No similar studies on Somali kids have been conducted anywhere in the United States. However, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council is very supportive of outreach programs that target Somalis in Ohio.

Credit: Star Tribune

Qotomiska oo aad u dhibaateeya carruurta Soomaaliyeed; Jaamacadda Minnesota ayaa ogaatay

By DONALD G. McNEIL Jr.

Cilmi-baaris muddo dheer la sugayay ayaa xaqiijisay cabsidii Soomaalida deggan Minneapolis ay ka qabeen in carruurtooda uu ku badan yahay nooc qotomis ah oo wax curyaamiya marka loo eego carruuraha kale.

Cilmi-baarista- oo ay sameeyeen Jaamacadda Minnesota, CDC iyo hay'adda cilmibaarista iyo ololaynta ee Autism Speaks – ayaa lagu ogaaday in qotomisku ku badanyahay labo dadyow: Hal cunug oo Soomaali ah 32 walba iyo hal cunug oo caddaan ah 36 walba oo reer Minneapolis ah ayaa ku jira heerarka qotomiska.

Isku celceliska heerka qaranku waa hal cunug 88 walba, sida laga xigtay Coleen A. Boyle, oo madax ka ah Xarunta Nuqsaanka Dhalmada iyo Korriinka Xumaada ee CDC.

Hase yeeshee carruurta Soomaalidu way ka hooseeyeen kuwa caddaanka xagga “caqli badnida” waxaana ku badnaa garaad ka hooseeya 70.

(Garaadka dhexdhexaadka ah waa 100.)

Cilmi baaristu faahfaahin kama bixinin tirada. “Ma garanayno sababta Soomaali badan iyo caddaanba loo ogaaday,” ayay tiri Amy S. Hewitt, oo ah horseedka mashruuca baarista agaasimena ka ah Xarunta Cilmi-baarista iyo Tababarrada Noloshaha Bulshada ee Jaamacadda Minnesota. “Mashruucan looma habayn inuu ka jawaabo su'aalahan.”

Natiijadu waxay la mid tahay tii cilmi baaris Sweden lagu daabacay sannadkii tagay oo lagu ogaaday in carruurta reeraha muhaajiriinta ee Stockholm – oo u badan Soomaali – uu ku badan yahay qotomiska garaadka curyaamiya.

....Eeg bogga 6...

Choose CareSource as your Health Plan.

Call: 1-800-488-0134



...Qotomiska iyo carruurta Soomaaliyeed... ka bogga 4aad

Cilmi-baarista Minneapolis waxaa kaloo lagu ogaaday in carruurta Soomaaliyeed ee qotomiska qaba xilli dambe lagu sheego. Celcelisku waa 5 jir iyadoo qotomiska iyo curyaanimada waxbarasho lagu ogaan karo 2 jir, carruurtuna ay faa'iido badan ka helaan daryeelka marka yaraanta lagu billaabo.

Carruurta madowga Maraykanka iyo Laatiin-Ameerka ee Minneapolis aad ayuu ugu yaraa qotomiska: hal 62 walba kuwa hore iyo hal 80 walba kuwa dambe.

Cilmi baaristu nuqsan bay lahayd. Qorayaashu carruurta toos uma aysan baarin, balse waxay dib u eegeen diiwaanka caafimaadka iyo waxbarasho ee 5,000 oo carruur ah oo 5 illaa 9 jir ah oo ay ka qiyaaseen.

Dhammaan carruurta Soomaaliyeed ee qotomiska qabta ee la eegay waxaa ku yaraa garaadka ayay tiri Dr. Hewitt.

Waalidiinta Soomaaliyeed ee Minneapolis waxay sanado ka cabanayeen in qaar badan oo carruurtooda ah ay leeyihiin astaamaha qotomiska – hadal la'aan, dadka kale oo aan wejiga laga eegi karin, qaylo iyo dabecado soo noqnoqda.

Mar baa 25 boqolkiiba carruurta fasallada tacliinta khaaska ah dhigta ay ahaayeen Soomaali, iyadoo ay Soomaalidu ka ahaayeen 6 boqolkiiba ardayda oo dhan. In kastoo carruurta Soomaaliyeed ay ku dhici karaan wax walba, waxay waaridku sheegeen in qotomiska aan aqoon loo lahayn oo heer eray u dhigma laga waayo af Soomaaliga la gaaray illaa ay qotomis soo alliftay SomaliCAN.

“Waan soo dhoweynayaa,” ayay tiri markay natiijada maqashay Idil Cabdul oo ah hooyo Soomaaliyeed oo leh ilmo qotomis qaba oo ka mid ahayd dadkii u horreeyay oo dalbaday baaritaan rasmi ah.

“Qotomisku wuxuu aammusiyay carruurtii dal wada gabyaa ah,” ayay ku dartay Idil, oo arrintan kala hadashay Qarammada Midoobay. “In uu yahay wax hidde raac ah oo uu kicinayo barafka Minnesota iyo in kale, ma ogi, laakiin waxbaa kicinaya qotomiska. Aabbahay wuxuu I baray in aan gabay tiriyo anigoo 4 jir ah, cunuggayguna waa 11 jir mana oran karo labo jumladood. Waa qalbi jab!”

...Qotomiska iyo carruurta Soomaaliyeed... ka bogga 5aad

Dr. Hewitt iyo Jaalle Rosanoff waxay sheegeen in ay doonayaan cilmi baaris dheeraad ah oo is barbar dhigta carruurta Soomaaliyeed ee qotomiska qabta iyo kuwa aan qabin, sida cabbirka garaadka iyo raadinta hiddaha.

Daraasaad la mid ah laguma samayn carruurta Soomaaliyeed ee ku nool gobollada kale ee maraykanka. Hase yeeshee, ODDC ayaa aad u taageerto barnaamijyo lagu wacyi gelinayo Soomaalida reer Ohio.

No similar studies on Somali kids have been conducted anywhere in the United States. However, the Ohio Developmental Disabilities Council is very supportive of outreach programs that target Somalis in Ohio.

Register Now for the 2014 Champion of Children Signature Event

Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Location: The Southern Theatre and The Westin Columbus

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – Live Interview taped by WOSU at the Southern Theatre. *Please arrive early to prepare for the taping.*

7:15 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. - Public Reception at the Westin Columbus

Individual Tickets-\$25 each

(Price does not include ticket processing fees)

Online: Register [here](#) or visit www.Ticketmaster.com.

By Phone: Southern Theatre: 614.469.0939

In Person: Visit the Main Box Office at the Ohio Theatre: 39 E. State St., Columbus, OH, Mon-Fri, 9-5 p.m., Sat 10 – 2 p.m.

About the Event

An Interview with Paul Tough

As a follow-up to last year's tremendous event featuring renowned educator Geoffrey Canada, Champion of Children is pleased to feature Paul Tough, author, most recently, of *How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character*, which spent 12 weeks on the New York Times best seller list. Paul Tough has studied the work of Geoffrey Canada and highlighted Canada's work in his first book, *Whatever It Takes: Geoffrey Canada's Quest to Change Harlem and America*, was published in 2008.

3. Job Opportunity of the Month

Children's Hunger Alliance

Position: Family Child Care Field Representative
Requirement: Bilingual – Somali-Speaking
FLSA Status: Non-Exempt, Part-time
Reports to: Family Child Care Regional Manager

Qualifications:

Associate's Degree in Nutrition, Child Development/Early Childhood Education or comparable – 2 years relevant experience can be substituted; experience with structured child care programs and training preferred.

Knowledge of:

- USDA program regulations
- Child nutrition and child development

Skills:

- Excellent interpersonal, oral, and written communications
- Ability to manage multiple tasks / time management
- Ability to work with diverse individuals and groups
- Organizational ability
- Ability to use computer, including email, the Internet, and various software programs

General Responsibilities:

1. Recruit and train family child care providers; document all approval requirements.
2. Complete reviews of family child care providers and complete required documentation; help ensure providers claim
3. Provide technical assistance to family child care providers to ensure meals meet the requirements of Section 226.10 of the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Family Child Care Program.
4. Review and process monthly write-in or manual menus and meal attendance records submitted by providers prior to submission to the data office, if applicable.
5. Follow-up as needed with additional reviews or telephone conversations to clarify questions or concerns with providers. Keep records of such follow-up.
6. Train and support providers on the Minute Menu system
7. Report Outreach activities to the Regional Manager, monthly
8. Maintain an organized electronic file for each family child care provider, including copies of all CACFP related documents.
9. Conduct and report CARES kit distribution as mandated by grants and communicate these visits to the Regional Manager, reported on review forms, weekly work log or as directed.
10. Participate in regional and state meetings.
11. Assist in the development of promotion, education and program specific resources.
12. Coordinate/present training workshops for providers.
13. Develop and maintain appropriate community contacts to increase awareness of CACFP-FCC and bring additional resources to the program.
14. Submit on time, accurate and complete weekly, bi-weekly and monthly reports to Regional Manager including but not limited to, time sheet, expense reimbursement, mileage, weekly work log, outreach log, training sign-in sheets, review forms and review documentation, menu error letters, home visit status.
15. Follow Ohio law regarding reporting of cases of suspected child abuse/neglect.
16. Complete Monthly Checklist including reviewing the providers not claiming list and providers on hold.
17. All other duties as assigned.

For additional information and/or to apply for this position, send your resume and cover letter to 4Kids@ChildrensHungerAlliance.org. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

5. Central Ohio Community Resources

Police:

Emergency: 9-1-1
 Non-emergency: 614-645-4545
 Sheriff: 614-462-3333

Mental Health Crisis:

Netcare Access: 614-276-2273

Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

Columbus Health Department
 Free Clinic: 614-240-7430

Legal Matters:

Legal Aid Society: 614-241-2001

Child Abuse and Neglect:

FCCS: 614-229-7000

Housing:

CMHA: 614-421-6000

Information and Referral:

HandsOn: 614-221-2555 or 211

Somali Services

SomaliCAN
 614-489-9226
www.SomaliCAN.org

The Omoleky Law Firm
 614-441-5305

SOMALICAN SERVICES:

Health Communication and Literacy:

- Patient education
- Prescription access
- Cultural competency training
- Information & Referral

Community Education:

- Youth engagement
- Services in Schools
- Advocacy and Support
- Scholarships
- Annual Graduation
- Crime Prevention
- Disaster Preparedness

SomaliCAN Outreach Newsletter:

- Monthly bilingual newsletter
- Advertisements
- Articles
- Cultural Competency
- Research
- Legislation
- Developmental Disabilities

Immigration Services:

- Green card applications
- Citizenship applications
- Citizenship education

Somali Interpretation & Translation:

Do you require highly qualified interpreters and translators?

Please contact a SomaliCAN specialist today. SomaliCAN provides interpretation and translation in social services, medical, legal, academic and financial settings.

SomaliCAN

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To request a copy of SomaliCAN Outreach Newsletter send an e-mail to Outreach@SomaliCAN.org or visit www.SomaliCAN.org.