

# Research Regroup for Trainees

April 1, 2020



## Guidelines:

1. We totally expect you to be multitasking including parenting and other non-science duties
2. Everyone is off mute so they can contribute. PLEASE MUTE YOUR LINE IF YOU ARE NOT TALKING
3. If this does not work, we will have to mute everyone and use the question box for questions. This isn't the worst thing in the world, just a warning




GoToWebinar Control Panel

Attendees Still On Hold Start Broadcast

Record on start

Sharing

Not showing anything.



▶ Show Main Sc...  
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Record Settings

▶ Dashboard  
▶ Attendees: 4 of 501 (max)

Audio

Computer audio Volume  
 Phone call  
 No audio


Microphone Volume  
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Talking:

▶ Webcam  
▶ Questions  
▶ Polls  
▶ Handouts: 0 of 5  
▶ Chat

**Research Regroup: Support for Autism Fellows Impacted by COVID-19**  
Webinar ID# 722-409-171

 GoToWebinar

We are funders but don't listen to us. We are listening to you. And talk to your mentor before you do anything discussed in this session. Please.



# Questions we promise to get to

- **What people are experiencing?**
- **What they are doing?**
- **Is it different across disciplines?**
- **Is my study salvageable?**
- **Is my career down the tubes?**
- **Where do I go from here?**

# Questions we promise to get to

- What people are experiencing?
- What they are doing?
- **Is it different across disciplines?**
- Is my study salvageable?
- Is my career down the tubes?
- Where do I go from here?

# Model systems studies:

## Challenges

- Animal labs are on lockdown
- Social distancing rules prevent people from being in the lab together.
- Some studies are developmentally timed

## Adaptations

- Certain universities walking is OK, easy distance, no problems getting into lab
- Animal care people may be considered essential personnel – animal care can continue so animals are healthy
- Can still go into lab even in italy

# Intervention and longitudinal research:

## Challenges

- Missing data
- Families are in crisis and now research is not a priority
- Variability in comfort with telehealth

## Adaptations

- In person visits can be moved to telephone or video call
- Universities subscriptions to zoom. May need something that is HIPPA compliant. That may be dependent on location and how software is set up. Zoom can be HIPPA compliant based on location



# Intervention and longitudinal research:

## Challenges

- Cohort effects - the pandemic will impact development, diagnosis and treatment.
- IRB is slow now

## Adaptations

- Talk to university to make sure telehealth is HIPPA compliant
- Maybe an opportunity for a “natural experiment”
- Have two cohorts – one before and one during pandemic.
- Request expedited review use the words “COVID-19”

# Intervention and longitudinal research:

## Challenges

- School based research -

## Adaptations

- David Mandell will write a blog about this for ASF.

# What about career development? How has this impacted you? – please put in comments

## **Challenges**

- My study is on hold. Will I get my dissertation?
- I was expecting my study to result in a publication that may not happen, this will look bad on my CV
- My mentor is not being responsive to my questions or challenges
- How will this impact postdoc funding and will there be more students in school for longer?

## **Adaptations**

- Ask your mentor. You might be able to use data you have already collected to finish.
- Major funders are probably going to be talking to publishers to discuss these challenges

# What about career development? How has this impacted you? – please put in comments

## **Challenges**

- Conferences are cancelled and this a major source of networking.
- NIH guidelines on reports and applications
- Grant and fellowship applications

## **Adaptations**

- No replacement for real in person interactions. Possibly create virtual ways to share data that was supposed to be presented?
- INSAR expansion of job site.
- NIH has a website that addresses many questions. It is on the ASF resources page.
- Ask the funding source– your original plan may need to change

# What about career development? How has this impacted you? – please put in comments

## **Challenges**

- What about getting a job, either post doc or other in the fall?

## **Adaptations**

- NIH BEST grants
- Don't panic. There are solutions that have not been considered yet or even discovered. There are other people in the same boat and people will come up with solutions. Stay the course
- Be open to learning new skills or taking advantage of opportunities

What about career development? How has this impacted you? – please put in comments

### **Challenges**

- Human subjects research on hold

### **Adaptations**

- Look into secondary data analysis and what has been collected already.

# Clinical research studies:

## Challenges

- Cohort effect
- Families cannot make it into clinic – social distancing or new chaos in their lives
- Mentor not being responsive
- Treatment adherence is not priority right now

## Adaptations

- Look for an advisor or someone else at your university or within your field that can help.

# Next steps: what is needed - if you picked the topic of the next webinar, what would it be?

- Families will continue to need research and of course services long after this pandemic has passed
- Think outside the box in terms of solutions
- Consider using existing datasets
  - Do we need a list of existing datasets that can be accessed?
- Open science policies = sharing datasets to younger investigators
- Alternative connection platforms for career development – LinkedIn? Not social distancing, Physical distancing
- Alternative networking mechanisms for starting and continuing collaborations.
- Note of hope: Some of the solutions may have long term benefits to families in rural or low resource communities. Now is the time to better understand them.

