

## ARE THERE ANY RISKS?

The potential risks are similar to activities of daily living that involve sitting. Children may become tired or fussy during the testing sessions.

They may also lose their balance and fall during sitting activities since they are beginning to develop these skills, but they will always be guarded by the researchers and/or parent. The researchers will be nearby at all times.

## FUNDING

This study is funded by a Systems Science Grant from the University of Nebraska and it will be conducted from 2017 - 2019.

After each time we come to your home for an evaluation, you will be reimbursed for your participation.

## MORE INFORMATION

Contact Anastasia Kyvelidou at Creighton University or Shari DeVeney at the University of Nebraska at Omaha to learn more details about the study.

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## Early Diagnostic Signs of Autism



## WHAT ARE WE STUDYING

This is a study examining the development of sitting, gaze behavior and social communicative behavior in infants and their families with (1) family history of autism spectrum disorders (ASD), (2) no family history of ASD, and (3) in infants born prematurely and with low birth weight.

The course of motor development and the looking behavior as well as the social and communicative behavior in combination may be a valuable tool to identify early signs of ASD.



## WHO CAN BE IN THIS STUDY?

This study will track infants and their families from the onset of sitting, around 4-5 months of age until 18 months of age. We will also do a follow-up evaluation at 3 years of age.

No neuromuscular conditions that affect balance or known genetic disorder that would lead to increased risk for ASD (e.g., fragile x).

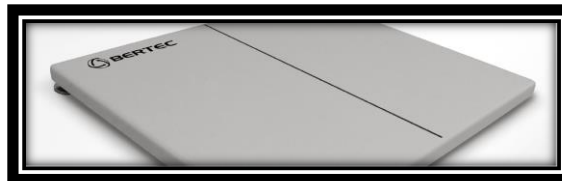
Normal or corrected to normal vision.

Infants that are born from a multiple pregnancy are not eligible to participate.



All data collections will take place at your home. At different sessions:

- (1) Infants will wear the headgear similar to the above picture and sit on their parent's lap. They will watch a video of social images and shapes.
- (2) Infants will sit on a force platform similar to the one shown below.
- (3) Parents/Caregivers will fill out questionnaires relating to the social/communicative behavior of their family, infants and infant siblings.
- (4) Infants will do play sessions with the experimenter and/or caregiver while we



video tape their movement and communication behaviors.

