

# Participate in Research

## Understanding interactions between parents and non-verbal children during feeding



### Principal Investigator:

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### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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### Do you have trouble understanding your child's feeding needs?

Consider participating in our research study to understand the interactions between parents and non-verbal children during feeding.

### What is this study about?

Feeding is a complex experience for children with disabilities. This study aims to understand the quality of interactions between non-verbal children and their parents and during feeding. This will help us provide better nutritional care for these children.

### Who can participate?

We are looking for participants who:

- Are non-verbal,
- Are between 3 and 19 years old,
- Are admitted to Holland Bloorview's inpatient unit for at least 5 weeks,
- Are independently ventilating,
- Are safe to consume food orally throughout the study period,
- Are able to tolerate wearing a brain sensing cap during meal time.

### What's involved?

- 1x Onboarding session (1 hour) and 4x Meal sessions (2 hours) over 5 weeks at Holland Bloorview.
- Onboarding session: We will ask you questions about your background and take body measurements of your child. We will also collect hair samples from you and your child.
- Meal sessions: You will be asked to identify 4 mealtimes (lunch or dinner) over 5 weeks when it is convenient for you.
  - At nights before each meal session, your child will be asked to wear a watch to monitor their sleep quality.
  - In the morning, your child will be asked to spit into a tube to collect saliva samples, and wear a mask to measure their energy levels.
  - During meal time, we will record video and brain activity from you and your child and measure your child's dietary intake.

### Potential benefits?

You will not benefit directly by participating, but you will help us develop a device to monitor feeding quality for non-verbal children. This may help us provide better nutritional care for children with disabilities.

### Potential risks?

You may get tired during the sessions. You will be able to take breaks and rest if that happens.

Participants will receive a gift card to thank them for their time.