



Autism Intervention Research  
Network on Physical Health

## AIR-P Network Newsletter

### DON'T FORGET!



...to [register for our webinar](#) held on **Tuesday 2/15 at 4:00pm EST/1:00pm PST!**  
More information below.

**AIR-P Presents: How can we use an understanding of the neurodiversity movement to develop socially valid supports for autistic people?**

*Presented by Dr. Kristen Gillespie-Lynch, Bella Kofner, Erin McKenney, Sergey Shevchuk-Hill, and ARRB member Patrick Dwyer*

This presentation will:

- Discuss the neurodiversity movement and its associated controversies
- Examine autistic and non-autistic stakeholders' perspectives about intervention goals
- Explore factors that impact the mental health of young people with autism
- Understand the need for an intersectional approach to developing autism supports
- Demonstrate how we can collaborate to make society more supportive of neurodivergent people

### INTRODUCING DR. KRISTEN CHOI – AIR-P NODE CO-LEADER

In December 2021, **Dr. Kristen Choi** became the co-leader of the [Primary Care Services and Quality](#) research node alongside Dr. Alice Kuo.

Dr. Choi, PhD, MS, RN, is an Assistant Professor at the UCLA School of Nursing. She is a child/adolescent psychiatric nurse and health services researcher. Dr. Choi studies health services and policy approaches to behavioral health, trauma, and violence among children. Her



current research projects include studies on autism spectrum disorder (ASD), adverse childhood experiences, the impact of trauma and violence on nurses, and health system factors associated with firearm violence. She is a member of the first cohort of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) and Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)-funded Stakeholder-Partnered Implementation Research and Innovation Translation (SPIRIT) K12 Program at UCLA. With this career development award, Dr. Choi is studying ASD services at Kaiser

Permanente Southern California (KPSC) and patient outcomes associated with implementation of California's autism mandate. She is an Adjunct Investigator in the Department of Research & Evaluation at KPSC and an Associate Director of Nursing for the UCLA National Clinician Scholars Program. As a both a clinician and a scientist, Dr. Choi maintains a clinical practice as a registered nurse (RN) at a community psychiatric hospital in Downtown Los Angeles. She addresses child behavioral health from individual, family, system, and policy levels in her research and is committed to a creative, action-oriented program of research that will improve the health of vulnerable children and communities.

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



- Dr. Brett Ranon Nachman presented at our January webinar on **Bolstering Autistic College Students' Mental Health and Wellness**.
  - View the recording [here!](#)
- AIR-P [Neurology](#) node leader Dr. Rujuta Wilson was an invited panelist for Monash University's **Global Critical Conversations: Removing barriers to inclusion for autistic children**.
  - View the recording [here!](#)

## COMING SOON

- AIR-P will be releasing the **RFP for our third round of [AIR-P Scholars](#) soon** – stay tuned for more details!
- **SAVE THE DATE: Our third AIR-P Research Day will be held on Wednesday, August 10, 2022**, as part of the AUCD Autism CARES Conference. The RFP for **rapid-fire presentations** at this event is now available! Please visit the [event page](#) to learn more about how to submit a proposal to be considered to present at this event.



In collaboration with the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD), we hold monthly webinars showcasing our work and current research. Previous webinar recordings can be found [here](#).

Other upcoming events:

- **March AIR-P Monthly Webinar:** March 15, 2022, 4-5pm EST/1-2pm PST – presentation by Dr. Rujuta Bhatt Wilson, AIR-P Neurology node leader.
- **April AIR-P Monthly Webinar:** April 19, 2022, 4-5pm EST/12-1pm PST – presentation by Dr. Lindsay Shea, AIR-P [Health Systems and Services](#) node leader, on the 2021 National Autism Indicators Report (NAIR)

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