

# OARC Update

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Acting Director, OARC

# The Office of Autism Research Coordination (OARC)

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The Office of Autism Research Coordination (OARC) coordinates the activities of the IACC, a federal advisory committee mandated by Congress to coordinate autism related activities across the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

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**OARC provides assistance to the IACC by:**

- Communicating information about the IACC and autism research activities to Congress, government agencies and the public.
- Planning meetings, conferences and other venues for interaction between the IACC and the public.
- Assisting the IACC in its strategic planning and autism research monitoring activities.
- Responding to inquiries from the public and government agencies.
- Conducting analysis and preparing reports for the IACC, the Secretary of HHS, Congress and the public.

# OARC Staff

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# OARC Update

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## Project updates:

- 2010 Strategic Plan
- 2009 Summary of Advances
- 2008 ASD Research Portfolio  
Analysis Report
- IMFAR Update

# 2010 Strategic Plan

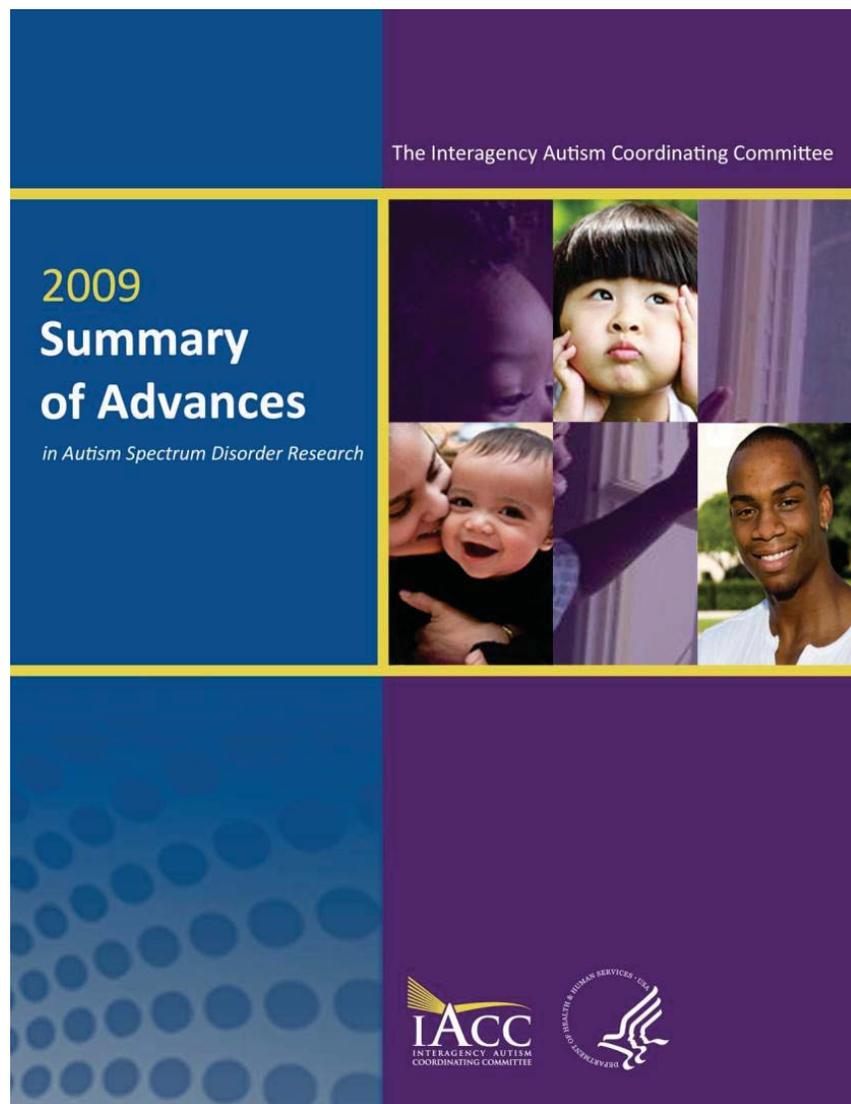
*The Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee*

## 2010 STRATEGIC PLAN *for Autism Spectrum Disorder Research*



- The IACC updated the 2009 Plan to highlight the most pressing research needs and opportunities for the field today.
- The Plan, which must be annually updated in accordance with the Combating Autism Act (CAA) of 2006, provides a blueprint for autism research that is advisory to the DHHS and serves as a basis for partnerships with other agencies and private organizations involved in autism research and services.
- In the process of developing the 2010 update of the Plan, the committee collected feedback from scientists, advocacy groups, research funding organizations, and members of the public to guide their efforts to refine the first version released in 2009.

# 2009 Summary of Advances



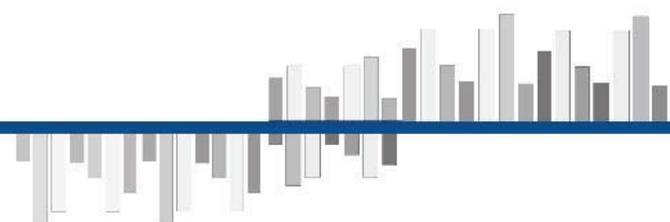
- The IACC identified 20 peer-reviewed articles published in 2009 that they felt reflected the most significant advances in ASD biomedical and services research.
- These studies gave important new insight into the prevalence of autism spectrum disorder, the biology of the disorder, potential risk factors, and possible interventions.

# 2008 ASD Research Portfolio Analysis

The Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee

Autism Spectrum Disorder Research  
**2008 Portfolio Analysis Report**

Prepared by the Office of Autism Research Coordination



- Federal agencies and private organizations provided information about the ASD-related research grants they supported in 2008.
- Report includes annual budget for each project and its relevance to the six questions of the 2009 IACC Strategic Plan for ASD Research:
  - When Should I Be Concerned?
  - How Can I Understand What Is Happening?
  - What Caused This To Happen and Can It Be Prevented?
  - Which Treatments and Interventions Will Help?
  - Where Can I Turn For Services?
  - What Does the Future Hold?

# International Meeting for Autism Research (IMFAR)

May 20-22, 2010

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

- IMFAR's primary aim is to promote exchange and dissemination of the latest scientific findings and to stimulate research progress in understanding the nature, causes, and treatments for ASD.
- IACC/OARC will have a booth at the meeting where meeting attendees can find out more about the work of the IACC.