



Adolescent Brain Cognitive DevelopmentSM
Teen Brains. Today's Science. Brighter Future.

ABCD Site Highlight

Children's Hospital Los Angeles & the University of California, Los Angeles

UCSD ABCD Team Since its launch, Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) and the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) have enrolled nearly 100 families in the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study.



Dr. Elizabeth R. Sowell and Dr. Susan Bookheimer lead the ABCD research teams at CHLA and UCLA, respectively. The teams have been working diligently to see participants any day of the week, including after school, on weekends, and on school holidays. (Photo: CHLA Program manager, Mei Hoong, and PI, Elizabeth R. Sowell, Ph.D.)

We are working closely with the Los Angeles, Inglewood and Torrance Unified School Districts,

talking to parents, students, and teachers about brain development at individual schools. These efforts have generated a great deal of excitement about brain science.

So far, families who have completed the study say they are proud to contribute to research that can help others. We even had a student volunteer offer to talk to other students about his experiences in hopes that they will also want to participate. We want to thank those who have contributed and hope to see everyone again at follow-up! We would also like to thank the schools that have continued to work with us to reach our goals and improve children's lives.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the things you do and experience in your environment as you grow up can affect how your brain develops throughout your life? Dr. Sowell and her colleagues at CHLA published an article about how our brains keep changing as we learn new skills and form new memories. When we are in our childhood and teenage years, our brains are like sponges, soaking up things we learn, see, eat, and do at a much faster rate than later in life. Read the full story at [Frontiers for Young Mind](#). Students at one of CHLA's participating schools—Carpenter Community Charter School – helped write the article! (Drawing by Dr. Sowell and James Jackson Crowell)



What's New



MRI is very safe!

It gives researchers a detailed image of the brain and does not use radiation. No health risks have been associated with repeated exposure to the magnetic field or radio waves used in MRI. Read more about MRI on our FAQ page: <https://abcdstudy.org/parents-faqs.html>.

FUN FACT

Fun Fact about Los Angeles:

When it was first put up, the Hollywood sign said: "Hollywoodland."
(Hollywoodsign.org)



ABCD In The News

National Study Looks at Adolescent Brains

CHLA Principal Investigator (PI), Dr. Sowell, discusses how adolescence is a crucial time during brain development: "This is really important because we all know that adolescence is a time when dramatic physical, emotional and social changes occur." (L.A. Parent 3/11/17)

<http://www.laparent.com/usc-ucla-childrens-hospital-los-angeles-to-study-teen-brains/>

For More Information, Please Visit:

ABCDStudy.org

Copyright © 2017 ABCD Study, All rights reserved.

Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development, Teen Brains. Today's Science. Brighter Future. and logo are unregistered service marks of HHS.
* This project is supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), but the content of this newsletter does not necessarily reflect the views of NIH. References or links in this newsletter to an external website or any specific commercial products, processes, services, manufacturers, or companies do not constitute endorsement or recommendation by the NIH or any of the ABCD Study Sites.