Title: Examining Neural Subtypes of Autism Spectrum Disorder

Abstract: Autism spectrum disorder is a neurodevelopmental disorder characterized by impairments in social communication and interaction and restricted and repetitive behavior. Despite commonalities in diagnostic features, individuals with autism are incredibly heterogeneous in their presentation of symptoms and clinical and medical co-morbidities. This heterogeneity creates a major challenge when it comes to understanding the neurobiology and behavior of autism. Examining more homogenous neural subtypes may better inform the field on the relationship between brain development, behavioral abnormalities, and functional outcomes in autism. This presentation will focus on two subtypes of autism, based on (1) brain enlargement and (2) amygdala function and anxiety. It will highlight how alterations in brain development and neural circuitry may relate to functional differences and clinical outcomes in children with autism.