



## FAQ

*The CAR Autism Roadmap™ sounds like a great resource! But how do I use it?*

We hope that you find the CAR Autism Roadmap™ and the accompanying CAR Resource Directory™ intuitive and easy to use. If you need help learning how to use either, please check out the [Video Tutorial for the Roadmap](#) and the [Video Tutorial for the Resource Directory](#). Still have questions? Please contact us via [email](#) or by phone at: 866-570-6524. We will try to get back to you as soon as possible, but please be patient if it takes us some time to find the answer to your question. Note that our phones are not staffed in the evenings, on weekends, or on major holidays.

*Who wrote the articles in the CAR Autism Roadmap™?*

The majority of articles in the CAR Autism Roadmap™ were written by staff at the [Center for Autism Research \(CAR\)](#) at [The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia \(CHOP\)](#). Many articles were also written by specialists at CHOP. Some articles were written by professionals, parents, and self-advocates in the Greater Philadelphia region.

All articles received review by a team of professionals, parents, and self-advocates to ensure accuracy and readability. A list of contributors and reviewers appears in the website's footer under [Our Supporters](#). Some contributors have chosen to remain anonymous.

*I'm confused! How do I get clarification on something I've read in the CAR Autism Roadmap™?*

We've tried to make the content as clear as possible, but there are bound to be areas where we haven't explained something well enough. If you have any questions, please contact us via [email](#) or by phone at: 866-570-6524. We will try to get back to you as soon as possible, but please be patient if it takes us some time

to find the answer to your question. Note that our phones are not staffed in the evenings, on weekends, or on major holidays.

*How do I suggest a topic for the CAR Autism Roadmap™?*

The CAR Autism Roadmap™ is a work in progress. We plan to continually add to the content. We have many articles that we have on our “To Do” list, but if there are specific topics you want to see, please [email us](#).

*Will you be expanding the CAR Autism Roadmap™ to contain more state-specific information?*

The Center for Autism Research is located in Pennsylvania, but we are situated not far from New Jersey and Delaware and have many families who visit us from those states. We have tried to present information that is general in nature and relevant to readers no matter where they are from. When laws, procedures, or services vary by state, we have tried to alert the reader. In many instances, we have provided state-specific information for Pennsylvania, and often for New Jersey and Delaware as well. Going forward, we hope to add more state-specific information to better serve our readers. Feel free to [contact us](#) if there is particular information you are looking for.

*Where did the resources in the CAR Resource Directory™ come from?*

Staff at the Center for Autism Research (CAR) at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) have extensive lists of area resources which they have always been willing to share with families and individuals. These lists were supplemented by lists from regional autism organizations and from recommendations from area support groups.

Each individual or group listed in the CAR Resource Directory™ was individually contacted to verify that the provider worked with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), that the information presented in the CAR Resource Directory™ was accurate at the time, and that the provider wished to be included in the directory. Going forward, CAR hopes to add an automated method for organizations to update their information.

*How do I get my organization included in the CAR Resource Directory™?*

If you are a service provider or local support group that supports individuals with

Autism Spectrum Disorder and their families and wish to be included (or removed) from the CAR Resource Directory™, please [email](#) the Center for Autism Research.

*How do I change my listing in the CAR Resource Directory™?*

If your listing needs to be updated, please [email](#) the Center for Autism Research. We hope to develop an automated mechanism for you to send us your updates in the future.

*What is the Center for Autism Research (CAR)?*

The [Center for Autism Research \(CAR\)](#) is a multi-disciplinary center at [The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia \(CHOP\)](#) and the [University of Pennsylvania](#) that coordinates and supports research on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). CAR's goals are to identify the neurobiological, environmental, and genetic causes of ASD, and to develop effective treatments. CAR currently has more than a dozen active research studies. Since becoming a [Center of Emphasis](#) at CHOP in 2008, CAR has made breakthrough discoveries in genetics and brain imaging and is developing and testing new autism interventions, including computer games designed to improve social skills. More than 2,000 people have signed up for [autismMatch](#), a research registry connecting families to autism research studies.

In addition to its research mission, CAR is committed to supporting families and communities affected by ASD. CAR is a resource to families, providing education, service guidance, and extensive diagnostic and developmental evaluations free of charge through its research protocols. These are funded in part by research grants but most especially by gifts from concerned families. CAR's outreach efforts also extend to professionals and communities who support individuals with ASD and their families. CAR regularly holds workshops for families and professionals, including a [Next Steps](#) seminar series and a [Distinguished Lecture Series](#). A newsletter is sent to interested individuals throughout the year; currently over 10,000 people [subscribe](#).

CAR is also training the next generation of master clinicians and scientists. Clinical and research fellows at CAR train side by side to learn how research can be informed by a strong clinical foundation and how clinical care is improved with an understanding of the underlying etiology.

*The design/functionality of this website is terrific! Who did the work?*

The concept for the CAR Autism Roadmap™ was developed by [Deb Dunn, JD](#), the outreach director at the Center for Autism Research, and [Gail Stein, MSW](#), the head social worker at CAR. Their vision was carried out by [Industrial Resolution LLC](#) and [The InfanTREE](#) and by the wonderful staff in the Research Information Systems department at [The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia](#), particularly Joy Payton. Many thanks to all who helped to make CAR's vision a reality.

*Who funded the work of the CAR Autism Roadmap™?*

The CAR Autism Roadmap™ was made possible by a very generous gift from Susan and Don Wenger and family. To learn more about the Wenger family and their gift, visit [Our Supporters](#), which can be found on the footer of the website.

The Center for Autism Research and The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia do not endorse or recommend any specific person or organization or form of treatment. The information included within the CAR Autism Roadmap & trade; and CAR Resource Directory & trade; should not be considered medical advice and should serve only as a guide to resources publicly and privately available. Choosing a treatment, course of action, and/or a resource is a personal decision, which should take into account each individual's and family's particular circumstances.