Ivette Cejas, PhD
Assistant Professor
Director, Barton G. Kids Hear Now Cochlear Implant Family Resource Center
Department of Otolaryngology
University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
1120 NW 14th Street, CRB 5th Floor (D-48)
Miami, FL 33136
Phone: (305)243-9199
Fax: (305)243-5044
Email: icejas@med.miami.edu
Abstract

This award will help support a 3-Day ADOS (Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule) Clinical Introductory Training that will be offered to all University of Miami staff and faculty. This training will help support the ongoing collaboration among the UM medical campus and main campus. The dual diagnosis of hearing loss and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) has been studied over the past 20 years; however, research on the diagnostic process and intervention is limited. This workshop is the first step towards UM Departments (Otolaryngology, Psychology) collaborating on a research study to estimate the prevalence of a dual diagnosis of hearing loss and autism by developing a systematic screening and diagnosis protocol.

Activity Goals

The dual diagnosis of hearing loss and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) has been documented for over 20 years; however, the research on young children with this dual diagnosis is sparse. Recently, an increase in the rate of the dual diagnosis of hearing loss and ASD has been reported with approximately 35% of profoundly deaf children having a co-existing diagnosis of an ASD. Further, an additional 7.9% of children with autism have an additional diagnosis of mild to moderate hearing loss. A child’s age when ASD or hearing loss is identified is critical in order to provide the child with appropriate early intervention services. Despite the high rates of co-morbidity reported in previous literature, methodologies designed to specifically assess for a dual diagnosis of ASD and hearing impairment are sparse. Co-occurrence may lead to delayed or missed diagnosis. In fact, families have reported a time lag of about 18 months to 12 years between diagnoses, especially when a hearing loss is identified first. One reason for this time lag in diagnosis is due to lack of appropriate training and knowledge of autism in providers working with young at-risk children (i.e., speech pathologists, audiologists).

The proposed workshop will train health-care providers on the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS), the “gold standard” for evaluating children who are suspected of being on the autism spectrum. This workshop will support an ongoing collaboration amongst the Department of Otolaryngology, Department of Psychology, and the Department of Pediatrics. As the Director and Clinical Psychologist of the Barton G Kids Hear Now Cochlear Implant Family Resource Center, I supervise speech and language pathologists, audiologists, and psychology trainees. Based on reviewing professional development plans and discussions at annual staff reviews, the need for further training in identifying children displaying symptoms of autism is apparent. Located within the Ear Institute, it is understandable that our resources are set aside for conferences and trainings related to hearing loss. This award will give me the opportunity to plan a conference to educate healthcare professionals on autism and appropriate diagnostic measures. This workshop can be offered to all UM students, staff and faculty across all the schools. Ultimately, it will foster communication among faculty/staff in different specialties serving these children and will be the first step towards developing a pilot study to estimate the prevalence of a dual diagnosis of hearing loss and ASD.

Personal Goals

In March of 2011, I transitioned from a post-doctoral fellow to an Assistant Professor at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Department of Otolaryngology. In June 2012, I became the Director of the Barton G. Kids Hear Now Cochlear Implant Family Resource Center and recently obtained a joint appointment in the Department of Psychology. As part of my faculty position at UM, I have developed systematic training opportunities for doctoral students and interns (psychology, audiology, speech and language pathology). As the Director of the Center, I emphasize a team approach
to treatment, training, evaluation and follow-up of children with cochlear implants and their families. The Center strives for the earliest possible identification and comprehensive evaluation of young children with severe to profound hearing loss. In addition to the clinical services provided at our Center we conduct educational trainings for teachers and other health care professionals, support groups for families in English and Spanish, and have a resource and lending library for families of children with hearing loss. The workshop that will be planned as part of the “You Choose Award” will allow me to continue providing best practice care for children served at our Center and will also help train and educate community providers and teachers who are also working with children served at the University of Miami.

In addition, as a clinical researcher this workshop will provide me with the training needed to develop a study to facilitate the diagnostic process for hearing loss and ASD. I plan to collaborate with UM-NSU CARD (Center for Autism and Related Disabilities) to estimate the prevalence of ASD in children with hearing loss. This workshop will be the first step towards developing this research protocol and will allow me to collect preliminary data necessary to apply for a federal grant to conduct this study across the seven CARD centers in Florida and across the United States. Ultimately, this data will serve to develop best practices in diagnosing a dual diagnosis of hearing loss and ASD.

**Budget and Budget Justification**

Funds are being requested for the UM Faculty/Staff to receive training in the ADOS-2. The ADOS-2 advanced workshop is designed for people who have already been exposed to and have used the ADOS. The fee for an ADOS-2 trainer to travel to train staff on-site is approximately $5,500. This includes the standard fee of $1800 per day of training (for a 2 ½ day workshop), and $1000 for travel costs (flight, lodging, and per diem). In addition to the cost of the consultant for the training, approximately $35 per person is being budgeted to cover the processing of the CEUs for psychologists, social workers, speech and language pathologists, etc (approximately $1,050).

I am requesting $2,500 to help cover the cost of the workshop. The “You Choose Award” will cover half the cost of the training. The remainder of the cost of the conference will be covered by a registration fee for attendance to the 3 day workshop ($150). With the budget provided below and with the support of the You Choose Award and the registration fee, I will approximately be $450 under budget. This may be used to cover the cost of morning refreshments for workshop attendees or we can lower the cost of the registration. Any costs not covered by the award or registration fee will be covered by the Department of Otolaryngology, Barton G Kids Hear Now Cochlear Implant Family Resource Center.

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<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tr>
<td>ADOS Training Total</td>
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<td>CEUs ($35 per person x 30 people)</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>Registration Fee ($150 x 30 people)</td>
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<td>You Choose Award</td>
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Ivette Cejas  

Maiden Name: Ivette Cruz  

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Information

**Home Address:**  
71 Glendale Drive  
Miami Springs, Florida 33166  
(305) 301-8609

**Citizenship:** United States

**Office Address:**  
Department of Otolaryngology  
University of Miami  
Miller School of Medicine  
1120 NW 14 St, CRB 5th Floor  
Miami, FL 33136  
(305)243-9199

**Academic Rank:** Assistant Prof  
Clinical Educator

**Academic Rank:**  
icejas@med.miami.edu

Higher Education

**Doctor of Philosophy**  
Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida  
8/05 – 8/10  
APA Accredited Program: Clinical Psychology  
Child, Adolescent, and Family Track  
Dissertation Title: *Identification of Effective Strategies to Promote Language in Deaf Children with Cochlear Implants.*  
Dissertation Defended: May 6, 2010  
Dissertation Chairs: Jan Faust, Ph.D. & Alexandra L. Quittner, Ph.D.

**Master of Science**  
Nova Southeastern University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida  
8/05 – 8/07  
APA Accredited Program: Clinical Psychology  
Major Paper Title: *Translation and Linguistic Validation of the Cystic Fibrosis Questionnaire-Revised for Spanish-Speaking Patients with CF*  
Mentors: Christian Delucia, Ph.D. & Alexandra L. Quittner, Ph.D.  
Cumulative GPA: 4.0

**Bachelor of Science**  
University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida  
8/02 – 12/04  
Honor’s Thesis: *Infant Sleep and Learning*  
Major: Psychology  
Minor: Biology and Spanish  
Cumulative GPA: 3.86  
Graduated *magna cum laude*

**Associate of Arts**  
Miami Dade College, Miami, Florida  
8/00 - 6/02  
Honor’s College  
Major: Psychology  
Cumulative GPA: 3.88

Licensure

Psychologist, Florida PY8413
# Positions/Experience

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>June 2012 – present</td>
<td>Barton G Kids Hear Now Cochlear Implant Family Resource Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td>March 2011 – present</td>
<td>Department of Otolaryngology, University of Miami</td>
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<td>Kids Hear Now Cochlear Implant Family Resource Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-Doctoral Research Fellow</td>
<td>September 2010 – September 2011</td>
<td>Department of Psychology, University of Miami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Psychology Intern</td>
<td>September 2009 – August 2010</td>
<td>Department of Pediatrics, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Mailman Center for Child Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctoral Dissertation</td>
<td>January 2007 – May 2010</td>
<td>Department of Psychology, University of Miami &amp; Nova Southeastern University</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Title of dissertation: <em>Identification of Effective Strategies to Promote Language in Deaf Children with Cochlear Implants.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Research Coordinator/Assistant</td>
<td>November 2004 – August 2009</td>
<td>Mentor: Alexandra L. Quittner, Ph.D. &amp; Jan Faust, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Department of Psychology, University of Miami</td>
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<td>Topics of Study:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Research Assistant</td>
<td>January 2006 – December 2007</td>
<td>Mentor: Jan Faust, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Department of Psychology, Nova Southeastern University</td>
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<td>Topic of study: expressed emotion</td>
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<td>Master's Thesis</td>
<td>November 2004 – May 2007</td>
<td>Mentor: Alexandra L. Quittner, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Department of Psychology, University of Miami</td>
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<td>Project Title: <em>Translation and Linguistic Validation of the Cystic Fibrosis Questionnaire-Revised for Spanish-Speaking Patients with CF</em></td>
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<td>Undergraduate Honor's Thesis</td>
<td>January 2003 – December 2005</td>
<td>Mentor: Marie Cheour, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Department of Psychology, University of Miami</td>
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<td>Thesis Title: <em>Sleep and Learning in Early Infancy</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>School Readiness Assessment</td>
<td>August 2002 - June 2005</td>
<td>Miami Dade County Public Schools</td>
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<td>Ludlam Elementary School</td>
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Academic Honors and Rewards

2012-present
NIH Loan Repayment Program

2007 - 2009
NIH Minority Supplement Pre-doctoral Fellowship Award

2007
Department of Psychology Travel Award, Nova Southeastern University

2006
Lane Family Fund for Hispanic Studies in Psychology Scholarship.

2004
*Magna cum laude*

2004
Sigma Delta Pi (National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society)

2004
Psi Chi (National Honor Society in Psychology)

2004
Phi Theta Kappa

2003
Golden Key International Honor Society

2002
PRIME Summer Award (Psychology Research Initiatives Mentorship Experience)

2002
Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Affiliations

American Psychological Association
American Psychological Association, Division 54 (Pediatric Psychology)
American Psychological Association, Division 37 (Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice)
Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Professional Activities

Ad Hoc Reviewer
*Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*
*Journal of Pediatric Psychology*
*Ear and Hearing*

Teaching Experience

**Graduate Mentor**
2006 - 2007
*University of Miami*, Miami, Florida.
Mentored one Psychology Research Initiatives Mentored Experience (PRIME) student per summer. The PRIME program is designed to prepare minority students for graduate studies.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**
2006 (Fall)
*Nova Southeastern University*, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.
Graduate Level Research Design and Methods (PSY 2809)
Course Instructor: Christian Delucia, Ph.D.

**Guest Lecturer**
2008 (Fall)
*Nova Southeastern University*, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.
Graduate level Pediatric Psychology (PSY 4409)
Topic: Childhood deafness

**Guest Lecturer**
2010 (April)
*Mailman Center for Child Development*, Miami, FL
Talk presented as part of the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) program
Topic: How to help families of hearing-impaired children
Guest Lecturer
2012 (April)
Mailman Center for Child Development, Miami, FL
Talk presented at the Psychology Fellows Seminar
Topic: Pediatric Hearing Loss

Grants

November 2007- October 2009
R01 Minority Supplement Grant, National Institutes of Health (PHS R01 #DC04797) (Awarded to Ivette Cruz, supervised by A. Quittner). Awarded $90,925 (direct costs); November 2007 – October 2009.

Publications


Cruz, I., Marcil, K.K., Quittner, A.L., & Schechter M. (2009). Anxiety and Depression in CF. Seminars in Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, 30, 569-578.


### Published Abstracts


Manuals/Brochures


Invited Presentations


Cruz, I. Brief Introduction to Problem-Solving. Invited presentation, Short Course on Brief Interventions to Improve Adherence: Motivational Interviewing & Problem-Solving at the 23rd Annual North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference, Minneapolis, MN, October, 2009.

Cruz, I. Barriers & Problem-Solving Steps. Invited presentation, Short Course on Brief Interventions to Improve Adherence: Motivational Interviewing & Problem-Solving at the 23rd Annual North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference, Minneapolis, MN, October, 2009.


Quittner, A.L., Cruz, I., & Marcieil, K.K. The International Depression/Anxiety Study. Presented at the 32nd European Cystic Fibrosis Conference, June 2009.


Papers Presented at Professional Meetings


### Moderated Sessions

**Cruz I.,** & Goldbeck, L. (2009, October). Preliminary Results of the International Depression/Anxiety Study (TIDES). Psychology & Psychiatry Research Networking Session moderated at the 23rd Annual North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference, Minneapolis, MN.


### Posters Presented at Professional Meetings


Hoffman, M., Quittner, A.L., & **Cejas, I.** (June 2014). Social Competence in Children with Cochlear Implants. Poster to be presented at the AG Bell Convention, Orlando, FL.


Hodges, A., Horvath, J., **Cruz, I.,** De La Asuncion, M., Balkany, T., & Telischi, F. (2011, July). Maximizing pediatric CI outcomes in a culturally & economically diverse population. Poster presented at the 13th Symposium on Cochlear Implants in Children, Chicago, IL.


Cruz, I., Quittner, A.L., McDonald, L., Botteri, M., Barker, D.H., Geller, D., Butt, S., & Gondor, M. (June 2007). Effects of a Clinic-Based Intervention on Knowledge and Treatment Skills for Parents and Young Children with CF. Poster presented at the 30th European Cystic Fibrosis Conference, Belek, Turkey.


Grimley, M., Barker, D., Cruz, I., Botteri, M., Quittner, A., & CDaCI Investigative Team. (April 2007). Language abilities of hearing & deaf children: a comparison of the NICHD and CDaCI cohorts. Poster presented at The 11th International Conference on Cochlear Implant, Charlotte, NC.

Quittner, A., McDonald, L., Barker, D., Cruz, I., & CDaCI Investigative Team. (April 2007). Parenting stress in deaf and hearing toddlers at 6 and 12 months post-implantation. Poster presented at The 11th International Conference on Cochlear Implant, Charlotte, NC.

McDonald, L., Barker, D., Cruz, I., Quittner, A., & CDaCI Investigative Team. (April 2007). Child behavior problems in deaf and hearing toddlers at 6 and 12 months post-implantation. Poster presented at The 11th International Conference on Cochlear Implant, Charlotte, NC.


