

# Distinguished Lecture Series

**THURSDAY,  
MARCH 10, 2011**

**7 P.M. – 9 P.M.**

**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE  
SERVED.**

**COLKET  
TRANSLATIONAL  
RESEARCH BUILDING  
ROOM 1100A**

*For more information, contact:  
Julie Mesaric  
Phone: 267-426-4903  
Email: [autism@email.chop.edu](mailto:autism@email.chop.edu)*

#### **Accreditation Statement**

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is accredited by The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

#### **AMA Credit Designation Statement**

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>™</sup>. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

#### **Accreditation Statement**

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

## **Lisa Croen, Ph.D.**

Director, Autism Research Program  
Division of Research, Kaiser Permanente Northern California

### **“What Causes Autism? An Epidemiologist's Approach to Searching for Clues”**

Dr. Lisa Croen is the director of Kaiser Permanente's Autism Research Program. She is the principal investigator at the Kaiser site of the Early Autism Risk Longitudinal Investigation Study (EARLI) and the Study to Explore Early Development (SEED). Both studies are looking to identify trends in genetics, environment and biology among children who have autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and those who do not. Dr. Croen is also the principal investigator of the Early Markers for Autism Study (EMA) and co-investigator of the California Autism Twins Study (CATS).

Her research interests include the epidemiology of ASD and other neurodevelopmental disorders, environmental exposures and gene/environment interaction, and adverse perinatal outcomes. She is also interested in patterns of ASD detection, diagnosis, and utilization of health services.

Epidemiology is the study of factors affecting the health and illness of people. In this lecture, Dr. Croen will describe how epidemiologists approach investigating risk factors for ASD.

Upon completion of this lecture, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the variety of study methods used to examine risk factors for ASD
2. Discuss the results from current epidemiologic studies exploring the risk factors for ASD
3. Discuss the challenges and future directions associated with investigating the risk factors and causes of ASD