

**Yael Dai, Ph.D.**  
Curriculum Vitae

## EDUCATION

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- 2021                    **Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology**  
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT  
APA-Accredited Program  
Major/Dissertation Advisor: Deborah Fein, Ph.D., ABPP-Cn
- 2021                    **Predoctoral Clinical Psychology Internship**  
Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD  
APA-Accredited Program  
Behavioral Psychology/Neuropsychology Track
- 2017                    **M.S. in Clinical Psychology**  
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT  
APA-Accredited Program  
Advisor: Deborah Fein, Ph.D., ABPP-Cn
- 2013                    **B.A. in Psychology** (*Summa Cum Laude*)  
Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

## POSITIONS HELD

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- 2022 –                    Assistant Research Scientist  
Department of Psychology  
University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA
- 2022 –                    Licensed Clinical Psychologist  
Cambridge Psychology Group
- 2021 – 2022            Postdoctoral Fellow  
Mentor: Alice Carter, Ph.D.  
University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA
- 2015 - 2020            Graduate Research Assistant  
Department of Psychological Sciences  
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
- 2013 – 2015            Clinical Research Coordinator  
Psychiatric & Neurodevelopmental Genetics Unit  
Massachusetts General Hospital
- 2011 – 2013            Senior Honors Student & Research Assistant  
Watson & Wright Research Lab  
Brandeis University

**LICENSURE**

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09/2022 Licensed Psychologist in Massachusetts (license #11908)

**AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

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2022 Child Intervention, Prevention, and Services (CHIPS) Fellow, NIMH

2019 Doctoral Student Travel Award, University of Connecticut

2018 – 2020 Maurice J. Farber Graduate Fellowship Award for Theory-Based Research

2017 Charles Skip Lowe Fellowship, University of Connecticut

2016 – 2018 Psychological Sciences Travel Award, University of Connecticut

2014 Outcomes Research Award, Clinical Research Day, Massachusetts General Hospital

2014 Psychiatry Research Award, Clinical Research Day, Massachusetts General Hospital

2013 Psi Chi Society

2013 Phi Beta Kappa National Honors Society

2013 J.V. Cunningham Award for Excellence in College Writing, Brandeis University

2013 Highest Departmental Honors in Psychology, Brandeis University

2009 – 2013 Dean's List, Brandeis University

**RESEARCH GRANTS**

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2022 – 2023 **Validating an Online Autism Diagnostic Tool**  
Dai, Y.G. & Tagavi, D.  
Autism Science Foundation Accelerator Grant  
Role: Co-Principal Investigator

2021 – 2023 **Improving Part C Early Intervention Service Delivery System for Children with ASD: A Randomized Clinical Trial**  
Carter, A.S., Ingersoll, B., Wainer, A., Stone, W., & Broder-Fingert, S  
National Institute of Mental Health (R01MH1222728-04)  
Role: Postdoctoral Fellow

2019 **Evaluating OPT-In-Early: An Online Training Program for Caregivers of Autistic Children**  
Dai, Y.G.  
Society for Research in Child Development Dissertation Award

2015 – 2020      **Early Detection of Autism Spectrum Disorder**  
 Robins, D.L.  
 National Institute of Child Health and Human Development  
 (R01HD039961-15)  
 Role: Graduate Student Researcher

### **PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS**

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**Dai, Y.G.**, Tagavi, D.M., Troxel, M., Oosting, D., & Carter, A.S. (2023) Characterizing autism training experiences in clinical psychology Ph.D. programs: Recommendations for improving training to enhance care. *Evidence-Based Practice in Child and Adolescent Mental Health*, <https://doi.org/10.1080/23794925.2023.2253549>

Williams, L.N., Wieckowski, A.T., Skapek, M.F., **Dai, Y.G.**, Zhang, F., Dumont-Mathieu, T.D., Barton, M.L., Fein, D.A., & Robins, D.L. (2023). Primary Care Clinician and Child Characteristics Impacting Autism Surveillance. *Brain Sciences*, *13*(1), 18. <https://doi.org/10.3390/brainsci13010018>

**Dai, Y.G.**, Thomas, R., Brennan, L., Luu, M.L., Hughes-Lika, J., Reilly, M., Moreno, P., Obe, B., Ahmed, K.B., Berry, L.N., Goin-Kochel, R.P., Helt, M.S., Barton, M.L., Dumont-Mathieu, T., Robins, D.L., & Fein, D.A. (2022). An initial trial of OPT-In-Early: An online training program for caregivers of autistic children. *Autism*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1362361322114208>

**Dai, Y.G.** & Carter, A.S. (2022). Characterizing accommodations by parents of young children with Autism: A mixed methods analysis. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-022-05652-6>

**Dai, Y.G.**, Thomas, R., Brennan, L., Helt, M.S., Barton, M.L., Dumont-Mathieu, T., & Fein, D.A. (2021). Development and Acceptability of a New Program for Caregivers of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Online Parent Training in Early Behavioral Intervention. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, *51*(6), 4166-4185.

Miller, L.E., **Dai, Y.G.**, Fein, D.A., & Robins, D.L. (2020). Characteristics of toddlers with early versus later diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. *Autism*, *25*(2), 416-428.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Porto, K., Skapek, M., Barton, M., Dumont-Mathieu, T., Robins, D.L., & Fein, D.A. (2020). Comparison of the Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers, Revised With Follow-up (M-CHAT-R/F) positive predictive value by race. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, *51*(3), 855-867.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Miller, L.E., Ramsey, R.K., Robins, D.L., Fein, D.A., & Dumont-Mathieu, T. (2019). Incremental utility of 24-month autism spectrum disorder screening after negative 18-month screening. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, *50*(6), 2030-2040.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Burke J., Naigles, L., Eigsti, I.M., & Fein, D. (2018). Language abilities in single and dual-language learners with autism or other developmental disorders. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, *55*, 38-49.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Brennan, L., Como, A., Hughes-Lika, J., Dumont-Mathieu, T., Rathwell, I., ... Fein, D. (2018). A video parent-training program for families of children with autism spectrum disorder in Albania. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 56, 36-49.

Miller, L.E., Perkins, K.A., **Dai, Y.G.**, & Fein, D.A. (2017). Comparison of parent report and direct assessment of child skills in toddlers. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 41, 57-65.

McGrath, L.M., Oates, J.M, **Dai, Y.G.**, Dodd, H.F., Waxler, J., Clements, C., ... Smoller, J. W. (2016). Attention bias to emotional faces varies by IQ and anxiety in Williams syndrome. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 46(6), 2174-2185.

Barak-Corren, Y., Castro, V.M., Javitt, S., Hoffnagle, A., **Dai, Y.**, Perlis, R.H., ... & Reis, B.Y. (2016). Predicting suicidal behavior from longitudinal electronic health records. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 174(2), 154-162.

Dunn, E. C., Brown, R., **Dai, Y.**, Rosand, J., Nugent, N., Amstadter, A., & Smoller, J. (2015). Genetic determinants of depression: Recent findings and future directions. *Harvard Review of Psychiatry*, 23(1), 1-28.

Castro, V. M., Minnier, J., Murphy, S. N., Kohane, I., Churchill, S. E., Gainer, V., Cai, T., Hoffnagle, A., **Dai, Y.**, ... Smoller, J. W. (2015). Validation of electronic health record phenotyping of Bipolar Disorder and controls. *American Journal of Psychiatry*, 172(4), 363-372.

## **BOOK CHAPTERS/OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

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Chavez, A.E., **Dai, Y.G.**, Tagavi, D.M., Martinez-Pedraza, F., Carter, A.S. (*In Press*). Diagnostic Categories and Clinical Disorder Case Examples: Early Atypical Autism Spectrum Disorder. *Zero To Three National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families*.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Tagavi, D.M., Carter, A.S. (2021). Replacing a spotlight with a lantern: Using the DC:0-5 Multiaxial Framework When Diagnosing Autism Spectrum Disorder in Early Childhood. *Zero To Three National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families*.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Miller, L.E., & Fein, D.A. (2020). Utility of repeated screening at 18 and 24 months. In: Volmar F. *Encyclopedia of Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Springer, New York, NY.

**Dai, Y.G.** & Eigsti, I.M (2018). Executive functions in adolescents with autism spectrum disorder. In N.W. Gelbar (Ed.), *Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 9780190624828

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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Abel, M.R., **Dai, Y.G.**, Henin, A., Carter, A.S., Hirshfeld-Becker, D.R. (2023, March). *Examining the Impacts of COVID-19 on Anxiety in Young Children: The Role of Child Temperament*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting for the Society for Research in Child Development, Salt Lake City, U.T.

**Dai, Y.G.**, & Carter, A.S. (2022, May). *Characterizing the Accommodations Made by Parents of Young*

*Children With Autism: A Mixed Methods Analysis*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research. Austin, T.X.

Tagavi, D., **Dai, Y.G.**, Petrucelli, M., Berger, N., Scott, S., Oosting, D., Howard, M., Birudavol, J., Carter, A.S., Ibañez, L., & Stone, W. (2022, May). *Transitioning to Remote Data Collection for Toddler Assessments: Considerations in the Adaptation of Research Protocols and Development of a Technology Assessment Package*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research. Austin, T.X.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Thomas, R., Luu, M-L., Brennan, L., Hughes-Lika, J., Ahmed, K., Obe, B., Berry, L., Goin-Kochel, R., Helt, M., Barton, M.L., Dumont-Mathieu, T., & Fein, D.A. *A Web-Based Training Program for Caregivers of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Oral presentation at the Virtual Biennial Meeting for the Society for Research in Child Development, April 2021.

Nichols, T., Saniya, S., Weickowski, A., Skapek, M., **Dai, Y.G.**, Dumont-Mathieu, T., Barton, M.L., Fein, D., & Robins, D.L. *Provider and Child Characteristics Impacting ASD Surveillance*. Poster presented at the 2021 Annual Meeting for the International Neuropsychological Society.

Skapek, M., **Dai, Y.G.**, Porto, K., Barton, M., Dumont-Mathieu, T., Fein, D., Robins, D.L. (2020, May). *Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers, Revised with Follow-Up: A Comparison of Total Scores and Screen Positive Rate by Race/Ethnicity*. Poster presented at the 2020 Annual Meeting of the International Society for Autism Research. Seattle, WA.

Miller, L.E., **Dai, Y.G.**, Fein, D.A., & Robins, D.L. (2020, February). *Development and Symptoms in Toddlers with Early Versus Later Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder*. Poster presented at the International Neuropsychological Society, Denver, CO.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Porto, K.S, Robins, D.L., & Fein, D.A. (2019, May). *Positive Predictive Value of the Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers, Revised with Follow-up for Black and White Children*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research, Montreal, CA.

Porto, K.S, **Dai, Y.G.**, Robins, D.L., Barton, M., & Fein, D.A. (2019, May). *Item-Level Positive Predictive Value of MCHAT-R in Younger and Older Toddlers*. Poster presented at the International Society for Autism Research, Montreal, CA.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Miller, L.E., Ramsey, R., Robins, D.L., Fein, D.A., & Dumont-Mathieu, T. (2019, March). *Incremental Utility of 24-Month Autism Spectrum Disorder Screening After Negative 18-Month Screening*. Poster presented at the Biennial Society for Research on Child Development, Baltimore, MD.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Brennan, L., Como, A., Hughes-Lika, J., Dumont-Mathieu, T., Rathwell, I., ... Fein, D. A (2018, February). *Video Parent-Training Program for Families of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Albania*. Poster presented at the International Neuropsychological Society, Washington, DC.

**Dai Y.G**, Burke, J.D., Naigles, L., Eigsti, I.M., & Fein, D.A. (2017, May). *Language Development in Dual Language Learners With Autism Spectrum Disorder and Other Developmental Delays*. Poster presented at the International Meeting for Autism Research, San Francisco, CA.

**Dai Y.G.**, Burke, J.D., Naigles, L., Eigsti, I.M., & Fein, D.A. (2017, May). *Language Functioning in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and Other Developmental Delays*. Poster presented at University of Connecticut Language Fest Meeting, Storrs, CT.

Miller, L.E., Perkins, K.A., **Dai. Y.G.**, & Fein, D.A. (2017, May). *Comparison of Parent Report and Direct Assessment of Child Ability in Toddlers*. Poster presented the International Meeting for Autism Research, San Francisco, CA.

**Dai, Y.G.**, Castro, V., Gupta, S., Hoffnagle, A., Clements, C., Corren, Y., ... Smoller, J.W. (2014, October). *Use of Electronic Health Records to Predict Suicide Risk*. Poster presented at the MGH Annual Research Day, Boston, MA.

**Dai, Y.G.**, McGrath, L.M., Waxler, J., Oates, J., Clements, C., Weill, S., Hoffnagle, A., ... Smoller, J.W. (2014, May). *Cognitive Contributions to Anxiety in Williams Syndrome*. Poster presented at the Society of Biological Psychiatry sixty-ninth annual scientific convention, New York, NY.

**Dai, Y.G.** & Wright, E.J. *Using Fantasy as Emotion Regulation: A Randomized Trial*. Paper presented at the Fifteenth Biennial Society for Research on Adolescence, Austin, March, 2014.

Dodd, H.F., McGrath, L.M., **Dai, Y.G.**, Oates, J., Waxler, J., McDougle, C., ... & Smoller, J. W. (2014, February). *Attention Biases To Emotional Faces in Williams Syndrome*. Poster presented at the Neurodevelopmental Disorders Seminar Series, London, UK.

**Dai, Y.G.**, McGrath, L.M., Waxler, J., Clements, C., Weill, S., Hoffnagle, A., ... Smoller, J.W. (2013, October). *Factors Contributing to Anxiety in Williams Syndrome*. Poster presented at the MGH Annual Research Day, Boston, MA.

## INVITED TALKS

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| 2023 | <i>Family Systems: Theories &amp; Intervention</i><br>University of Massachusetts Boston  |
| 2023 | <i>Identifying, Preventing, and Treating Anxiety in Young Children</i><br>Part C Early Intervention in Chicago  |
| 2022 | <i>Early Intervention for Autistic Children: Enhancing Effectiveness and Dissemination</i><br>Lurie Center for Autism: Massachusetts General Hospital |
| 2017 | <i>Autism Spectrum Disorder: Early Identification &amp; Intervention</i><br>University of Connecticut   |

## TEACHING

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### *Classroom Instruction*

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 2018 | Introduction to Psychology<br>Trinity College<br>Instructor of Record |
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- 2017 Abnormal Psychology  
University of Connecticut  
Instructor of Record
- 2016 General Psychology (2 classes)  
University of Connecticut  
Section Leader
- 2013 Advanced Seminar on Disorders of Childhood  
Brandeis University  
Teaching Assistant
- 2011 Introduction to Psychology  
Brandeis University  
Teaching Assistant

### ***Clinical Teaching & Supervision***

- 2022 – 2023 RISE Assessment Team  
University of Massachusetts Boston  
Licensed Clinical Psychologist
- 2019 – 2020 Practicum in Adult Psychotherapy  
Psychological Services Clinic  
Graduate Student Supervisor

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

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- 2023 *Honors Thesis Mentorship*, University of Massachusetts Boston
- 2021 – 2022 *Mentor*, Society of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology (Division 53)
- 2016 – 2018 *Graduate Mentor (including to two undergraduates completing senior honors theses)*, University of Connecticut Early Detection Lab
- 2016 – 2017 *Student Representative to Faculty*, University of Connecticut Clinical Division
- 2016 *Student Coordinator for Applicant Interviews*, University of Connecticut Clinical Psychology Division
- 2013 – 2016 *Alumni Career Panel*, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA

### **PEER REVIEW**

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- Autism: International Journal of Research and Practice*  
*Journal of Affective Disorders*  
*Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*  
*Journal of Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology*

*Journal of Neurology and Neuromedicine*  
*Journal of School Psychology*  
*Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*

## **WORKSHOPS AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING**

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2023	Sunfield Center for Autism, ADHD, and Behavioral Health ADOS-2 Training: Toddler Module and Modules 1-4 (Suzi Naguib, Psy.D.)
2022	Behavioral skills training series: Evidence-based treatment of childhood ADHD, Disruptive Behavior, and Anxiety (Joshua Rosenthal, PsyD)
2021	Two-day online interactive workshop on Reciprocal Imitation Training (Yael Stern, Ph.D. & Ellie Harrington, Ph.D.)
2021	Using CARS-2 to diagnose ASD through telehealth (UNC TEACCH Training)
2020	Weekly Dialectical Behavioral Therapy workshop (Andrea Goddard, Ph.D.)
2020	Room to Grow: Journey to Cultural and Linguistic Competency. “Understanding and Using Equity Approaches to Promote Health, Leadership, and Well-Being.” (Kennedy Krieger Institute)
2019	Two-day training in Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (Jessica Wozniak, Ph.D.)
2018	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Course (David Tolin, Ph.D., ABPP)
2016 – 2018	Treatment of Complex Trauma (Christine Courtois, Ph.D., Ervin Staub, Ph.D., Laurie Pearlman, Ph.D., Janina Fisher, Ph.D.)
2015	Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule administration training

## **CLINICAL TRAINING**

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### *Psychological Assessment*

2021 – 2022	RISE Study, University of Massachusetts Boston Study Clinician
2015 – 2019	Psychological Services Clinic, University of Connecticut Graduate Student Clinician
2015 – 2019	Early Detection Lab, University of Connecticut Graduate Student Clinical Researcher



*Psychotherapy Experience*

2021	Behavior Management Clinic, Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Pre-Doctoral Intern
2020 – 2021	Child and Family Therapy Clinic, Kennedy Krieger Institute/Johns Hopkins School of Medicine Pre-Doctoral Intern
2019 – 2020	Division of Digestive Diseases, Hepatology, and Nutrition, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center Pediatric Psychogastroenterology Practicum Clinician
2018 – 2019	Anxiety Disorders Center/Center for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Institute of Living Psychotherapy Practicum Clinician
2019	Donnelly Inpatient Unit, Institute of Living Unified Protocol Group Co-Leader, Practicum Clinician
2016 – 2017	Family Therapy Practicum, Psychological Services Clinic, University of Connecticut Graduate Student Clinician
2017 – 2018	Adult Psychotherapy Practicum, Psychological Services Clinic, University of Connecticut Graduate Student Clinician