
INFORMATION

VISIT

www.SMART.pitt.edu

Please contact Project Manager
Chuck Vukotich at 412-383-2400 or
charlesv@pitt.edu with your questions
about SMART Schools.

A consent form and disclosure
statement will be sent home at a later
date. This is not a consent form.

“We greatly appreciate your school’s
involvement in this important project that can
help us better understand individual social
contact and mixing patterns in school-aged
children. Experience has shown that schools
facilitate the spread of infectious diseases not
only among students but also throughout the
community, such as during the 2009 H1N1
pandemic.

This research may help us design future
strategies to better protect students, school
staff, and community.”

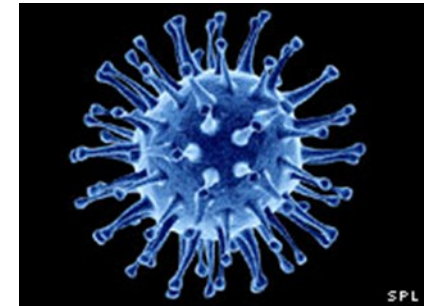
Amra Uzicanin, MD MPH

Lead, Community Interventions for Infection
Control Unit
Division of Global Migration and Quarantine
US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CENTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE

Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh
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SOCIAL MIXING AND RESPIRATORY TRANSMISSION IN SCHOOLS



“SMART SCHOOLS”

A research project of
Graduate School of Public Health
University of Pittsburgh

Propel Schools
&
Canon-McMillan
School District

US Centers for
Disease Control and
Prevention (CDC)

The purpose of this research is to figure out how influenza and other respiratory diseases are spread in schools and from schools out into the community.



An important part of this project is to figure how often children come in contact with each other. This includes holding a conversation, sharing items, and being close together.

VOLUNTARY

Participation is voluntary. There is no penalty for not participating. Educational activities are open to all students, regardless of participation.

WHAT IS BEING DONE

This research will use different methods to determine the student's contacts, including:

1. Students will receive a "mote" at the beginning of the school day and will wear it all day. Some may be asked to take it home and wear it overnight.
2. Students will fill out an assessment form which lists the people who they have come in contact with.
3. Parents of absent students will be contacted to determine if their student has the flu or flu-like illness.
4. Students with the symptoms of flu will be tested for the flu.

EDUCATION

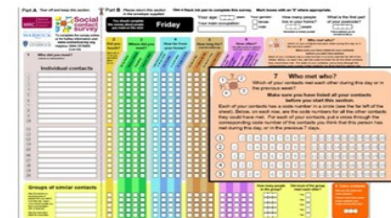
We will provide an educational program on influenza, spreading germs and research, as requested.



MOTE

A mote is a small (1"x3"x3/4") electronic device powered by two "AA" batteries. The motes send out a weak signal - similar to a cordless phone - every 20 seconds. Motes look for other motes. They record the signal of other motes.

DIARY



Students list people that they came in contact with, if they talked to them, shook hands, etc. All names are removed in the end so results are anonymous.