



Surveillance, Monitoring Absenteeism & Respiratory Transmission Study

YOU CAN BE A SMART FAMILY

Your child's school is participating in SMART² (Surveillance, Monitoring Absenteeism & Respiratory Transmission) Study. Researchers from the University of Pittsburgh, University of Florida and Johns Hopkins University are studying how respiratory diseases, such as the flu, spread in schools, families, and communities.

We are looking for families from your school to participate in a sixteen week research project to study how respiratory diseases, like the flu, spread through families.

This research aims to more quickly spot the start of flu season by monitoring schools, families, and communities. The more advanced warning we can get, the better prepared services and healthcare can be, and ultimately reduce the number of people who get sick and suffer serious health problems from the flu.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Sign up to be a SMART family.
- SMART families complete a brief, 5-10 minute survey each week for sixteen weeks.
- Surveys can be done online or over the phone.
- The main part of the survey asks if anyone in your household is sick and if they have symptoms such as a fever, cough, or sore throat.
- All of the information you share will be kept confidential.
- If anyone in your household has flu-like symptoms, you will be asked to do simple swabs of the nose and mail them to the study staff to test for respiratory illnesses.
- All swab kits and mailings will be provided at no cost to you.
- Each week that you complete a survey, you will be entered in a drawing for one of three \$200 gift cards.
- Families will be given a \$20 gift card for enrolling in this study. They will be given an additional \$20 gift card every four weeks during the 16-week study period if they complete all 4 weekly surveys in that time period (Weeks 4, 8, 12, and 16).

SMART2 PROJECT STAFF

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READY TO SIGN UP OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact Rachael Bieltz, Project Coordinator at m1s166@pitt.edu or 412-652-89016.