

Assent to Participate in a Research Study (14-17 year olds)
CAREGIVING: STRESSES AND SUPPORT

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Overview and purpose

Having a relative who is ill and needs extra care can be challenging. We are asking you to be part of a research study that plans to identify ways to provide better support services both to the people who take care of others who are ill and to the families of these caregivers. We contacted your family because your parent attended a meeting of the UM Caregivers Support Group. We plan to ask 50 children between the ages of 10 and 17 to participate in our research. This study is funded by the National Institutes of Health.

Description of your involvement

If you agree to be part of this study and at least one of your parents gives permission, you will talk to an interviewer about how this experience affected you. The interviewer will come to your home to talk with you at a time that is convenient for you and your parent. The interview will take about 45 minutes. We would like to audiotape the interview to make sure that our conversation is recorded accurately, but you can still be part of the study if you don't want to be audiotaped.

Benefits

While you may not receive a direct benefit from participating, we hope that this study will result in better support services for other families.

Risks and discomforts

Answering questions about this time in your family's life may be uncomfortable. You can choose not to answer a question or you may stop the interview at any time. Just tell the interviewer you want to stop.

Compensation

You will be paid \$30 for participating in the full interview. If you decide to quit before the interview is over, you will be paid \$15.

Confidentiality

We plan to publish the results of this study, but will not include any information that would identify you or your family member. To keep your information safe, the audiotape of your interview will be placed in a locked file cabinet until a written word-for-word copy of the discussion has been created. As soon as this process is complete, the tapes will be destroyed. The researchers will enter study data on a computer that is password-protected. To protect confidentiality, your real name and your family member's name

will not be used in the written copy of the discussion. The researchers plan to keep this study data to use for future research about caregivers.

There are some reasons why people other than the researchers may need to see information you provided as part of the study. This includes organizations responsible for making sure the research is done safely and properly, including the University of Michigan, government research offices, or the study sponsor, the National Institutes of Health. Also, if you tell us something that makes us believe that you or others have been or may be physically harmed, we may report that information to the appropriate agencies.

Voluntary nature of the study

Participating in this study is completely voluntary. Even if your parents say you can talk to us, you do not have to do so. Even if you say yes, you may change your mind and stop at any time. You may also choose to not answer a question for any reason.

Contact information

If you have questions about this research, including questions about the scheduling of the interview or compensation for participating, you can contact John Jones, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Department of Psychology, 123 East Hall, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (866) 123-4567, jjones@umich.edu.

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact the University of Michigan Institutional Review Board Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences, (734) 936-0933, 540 E. Liberty St., Suite 202 Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2210, irbhsbs@umich.edu.

Assent

By signing this document, you are agreeing to be in the study. We will give you a copy of this document and will keep a copy in our study records. Be sure that we have answered your questions about the study and you understand what you are being asked to do. You may contact the researcher if you think of a question later.

I agree to participate in this study.

Signature

Date

I agree to have my interview audiotaped.

Signature

Date