

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA RESEARCH PARTICIPANT INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Protocol Title: Promoting equity in firearm safety and suicide prevention to reduce suicide in Black youth

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Research Study Summary for Potential Participants

You are being invited to participate in a research study. Your participation is voluntary, and you should only participate if you completely understand what the study requires and what the risks of participation are. You should ask the study team any questions you have related to participating before agreeing to join the study.

The research study is being conducted to learn more about implementation of the *S.A.F.E. Firearm* program in pediatric primary care settings as a universal suicide prevention strategy. As part of the study, parents are asked to complete a survey following their child's well visit at the pediatrician's office. If parents answer that they received the program, indicate firearm ownership, and identify as Black or African American and/or white on the survey, they are invited to participate in an interview. The goal of the interviews is to explore parents' experiences receiving the program from the pediatric clinician during their child's well visit, as well as firearm storage decision-making processes following program receipt. We are focusing on health equity in this project to promote more inclusive, equitable, and effective suicide prevention research.

What is the purpose of the study?

To explore parents' experiences receiving the *S.A.F.E. Firearm* program and subsequent firearm storage decision-making.

Why was I asked to participate in the study?

You are being asked to participate in this study because you are eligible based on your survey responses.

How long will I be in the study?

You are being asked to participate in a one-time, audio-recorded interview. The interview will last approximately 45 minutes. The audio-recording will be transcribed into writing by a professional transcription service after the interview.

Where will the study take place?

The interview will take place by phone.

What will I be asked to do?

You will be asked to answer questions related to your experiences receiving *S.A.F.E. Firearm*, including what you liked or disliked about the program, the interaction with your child's clinician, and any discussion of your child's mental health. You will also be asked about your firearm storage to better understand how your beliefs, values, and circumstances shape this decision-making.

What are the risks?

The risks are minimal. One potential risk is experiencing discomfort given the potentially sensitive nature of the topic discussed. You do not have to answer any questions or participate in any part of the interview that makes you uncomfortable. Another potential risk is the potential for loss of confidentiality. The research team will make every effort to make sure your privacy and confidentiality is maintained by collecting, recording, and storing data securely.

You will not be responsible for the costs of research-related injuries that are due to your participation in this study. However, you will be responsible for the costs of medical injuries that are due to the natural progression of your illness or condition. We may need to know some information (like name, date of birth, Medicare insurance, claim number and/or social security number) to pay these medical expenses. In the event that this research-related activity results in an injury, treatment will be made available including first aid, emergency treatment, and follow-up care as needed. Medical services will be offered at the usual charge. However, compensation for things such as lost wages, disability or discomfort is not routinely available.

By signing this consent form, you do not give up any of your legal rights in the event of an injury.

How will I benefit from the study?

There is no direct benefit to you for participating. However, your participation in the interview will help researchers learn more about parents' experiences receiving *S.A.F.E. Firearm* in a primary care setting.

What other choices do I have?

Your alternative is to not participate.

What happens if I do not choose to join the research study?

There is no penalty if you choose not to join the research study, and your child's primary care will not be affected.

When is the study over? Can I leave the study before it ends?

The study is expected to end after all parent participants have completed interviews and program implementation data has been analyzed. The study may be stopped without your consent if the PI, the sponsor, or the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at the University of Pennsylvania stops the study.

You have the right to drop out of the research study at any time. If you want to stop the interview and withdraw from the study, just let me know, and I will stop the interview. If you decide later that your information should not be used in this study, please email me to request that the interview data be destroyed, and I will do so immediately. There is no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled if you decide to drop out.

How will my personal information be protected during the study?

Your information will only be accessed by the research team and a professional transcription service. We will not de-identify the audio-recording but will ensure that all transcriptions are de-identified (i.e., no names will be on the transcriptions). We will delete the recordings from the audio recorders after they have been uploaded to a database. We will also maintain your confidentiality by ensuring that identifiable information is masked using numeric codes. If information from this study is published or presented at scientific meetings, your name and other personal information will not be used.

We will protect your personal information by ensuring that:

- Information will only be shared with those working on this study
- Participant identity will be masked using numeric codes
- Data will be entered directly into password-protected files
- Files kept on the computer will only be identified with participant numbers and will not contain identifying information

You should also know that the Henry Ford Health System Institutional Review Board (IRB) and IRB Administration Office may inspect study records as part of its auditing program, but these reviews only focus on the researchers. The IRB is a group of people who review research studies to protect the rights and welfare of research participants.

What may happen to my information collected in this study?

The transcribed interview will be de-identified. De-identified means that all identifiers have been removed. The information could be stored and shared for future research in this de-identified fashion. It would not be possible for future researchers to identify you as we would not share any identifiable information about you with future researchers.

Will I have to pay for anything?

You will not need to pay for anything to participate in the interview.

Will I be paid for being in this study?

You will receive a \$25 electronic gift card as a thank you for the time and effort given to help understand these issues.

You will receive payment via a ClinCard, which is a specially designed debit card for clinical research that works like a bank debit card. Each time you receive a payment for participation in this study, the money will be added to the card after each completed visit. The debit card system is administered by an outside company. They will use this information only as part of the payment system. Your information will not be used for any other purposes and will not be given or sold to any other company. In order to receive payment, we will need to collect some information about you, including your name, address, date of birth, medical record number, social security number, and your patient study ID code. All information is stored in a secure fashion and will be deleted from our records once the study has been completed and the funds on your ClinCard have been exhausted.

You may use this card at any store that accepts credit cards. You may also withdraw cash. Please be aware that there may be fees drawn against the balance of the card for cash withdrawals and inactivity. You will receive additional information on how you can use this card and any fees that may apply.

