

# Invitation to Participate in a Family Communication Study

Thank you so much for wanting to learn more about our study. We think it is important to learn from siblings and parents of children who have serious illnesses about:

- Ways to best help siblings and families.
- How families communicate or talk about important topics related to serious illness.
- Ways you start conversations with each other.
- How families communicate with the care team.
- Whether the way we ran the study was helpful.



We think learning these things from siblings and parents is important because your experience and perspective can teach us what is missing in the healthcare system to support families. We want to create ways to support siblings and parents and think learning from you is the best place to start.

## What are the steps in this project?

*This study requires participation by both the sibling and the parent. This study is recruiting siblings aged 12-17 years old.*

1. Let the study team know your family is interested in participating by contacting Kim Mooney-Doyle at [kmooney-doyle@umaryland.edu](mailto:kmooney-doyle@umaryland.edu) or by completing this form: [https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_7ODTiDE0kfvQTkO](https://umaryland.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7ODTiDE0kfvQTkO)
2. The research team will set up a time to talk on the phone about the study so they can answer any questions you might have.
3. We will send each sibling and parent a link to complete a few surveys about yourself and your family on-line.
4. For those who are interested, we are also doing an interview where you share your ideas with us. You can let us know if you are interested in this part.
5. If you agree, we will do a brief phone call after the surveys and/or interview to see if the way we ran the study was helpful and to make sure we captured your ideas well.
6. Siblings and their parents will each receive a gift card for their participation.

## How will we use the information we gather in this study?

We will use this information in research papers and presentations. These papers and presentations are important to teach professionals how to care for siblings and families. We will also use this information to create ways to support siblings and families.

## What do I do if I have a problem or question while participating?

If you have questions, call or text Kim at 215-514-1707. She is in charge of this study and will help you. You can email her, too, at [kmooney-doyle@umaryland.edu](mailto:kmooney-doyle@umaryland.edu)