

ADOLESCENT CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A TREATMENT OUTCOME STUDY

University of Kentucky Medical Center, Center on Drug and Alcohol Research
UK Health Follow-up Study

WHY AM I BEING ASKED TO TAKE PART IN THIS RESEARCH?

You are being asked to take part in a follow-up research study of substance abuse treatment. You are being asked to do this because you are a client of a state-funded substance abuse treatment program. Your participation in this research project is completely voluntary. If you take part in this study, you will be one of about 500 people per year to do so. This research study is separate from your taking part in counseling services at the substance abuse treatment center. Your taking part in the study is not required to get treatment at the program.

WHO IS DOING THE STUDY?

The Principal Investigator in charge of the study is Jennifer Cole, Ph.D. She is an Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky. Robert Walker, M.S.W., L.C.S.W. and TK Logan, Ph.D. also work with the study. Other professionals who work with the investigators may help them with the study.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?

The purpose of this study is to gather information about substance abuse and related behavioral health problems. It also studies employment, education, family life, health status, legal status, stress and coping, and your use of treatment services. It is also for the purpose of evaluating how people benefit from treatment.

WHERE IS THE STUDY GOING TO TAKE PLACE AND HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

When you come in for your treatment intake visits, your counselor will ask you questions about substance use and related behaviors. Some clients may be asked to complete a brief survey at discharge from the program. In addition, twelve months after you entered treatment, we will contact you by telephone for a follow-up interview. For the surveys, the total amount of time needed for this study is about 1 hour over the next year. In general, we usually contact the majority of the persons who agree to participate in the follow-up study.

WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?

You will be asked to answer questions about your substance use and related behavioral health problems. You will be asked about your employment, education, legal status, stress, and your use of services. You will be asked these questions, but you will not be asked to take part in any experimental treatments or procedures.

You will also be asked to give contact information. This includes the names, addresses, and phone numbers of two persons who would be most likely to know how to reach you 12 months after treatment. We may call you to update your information so we can reach you for the follow-up. If you are called for a follow-up interview by telephone, you will be asked some of the same questions that are asked by your counselor. This telephone call takes about 20 minutes.

You are also asked to let the researchers use state information about the number, types, and costs of state- and Medicaid-funded services you receive. In addition, you are being asked to let the researchers collect information from public records of arrests and court events that have involved you. You or the people you list as contacts may be contacted by phone, mail, email, or through social networking sites in order to reach you to complete the follow-up interview. We may use publicly available databases to find updated information in order to contact you about completing the follow-up interview. In some cases, we may confidentially try to contact you through addresses or phone numbers that are or have been linked to you in some way by mail or phone.

ARE THERE REASONS WHY I SHOULD NOT TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY?

There are no conditions that would keep you from taking part in this study. If you are only in detoxification or just in DUI education, you should not be in the study. If you are 18 years old or older, you should not be in this study.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS?

There are no known risks to participating in these interviews. It is perhaps possible that the questions will cause you some emotional discomfort since they might cause you to remember times when you were unhappy or under stress. Also, some people may be uncomfortable talking about confidential information. Because of the steps we have taken to protect your

privacy, the risk of unauthorized disclosure is minimal. If you have some discomfort during the follow-up interview, you will be offered referral to counselors in your area.

WILL I BENEFIT FROM TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY?

There are no direct benefits to you for taking part in the follow-up study. However, some people find it helpful to be interviewed about their lives and their substance use because it helps them see their health in a different light. Also, these questions about substance use might help you see a need for change and this can be a benefit.

DO I HAVE TO TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY?

If you decide to take part in this follow-up study, it should be because you really want to volunteer. You will not lose any benefits or rights you would normally have if you choose not to volunteer. You can stop at any time during the study and still be in good standing with the substance abuse treatment program.

IF I DON'T WANT TO TAKE PART IN THE STUDY. ARE THERE OTHER CHOICES?

If you do not want to take part in the follow-up study, there are no other choices except to not participate.

WHAT WILL IT COST ME TO TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY?

You will not have any cost for the follow-up interview study.

WHO WILL SEE THE INFORMATION THAT I GIVE?

Because of the steps we have taken to protect your privacy, the risk of unauthorized disclosure of information is minimal. Your information will be combined with information from other people taking part in the study. When we write about the study, we will write about the combined information we have gathered. You will not be identified in these written materials. When we publish the results of this study, we will keep your name and other identifying information private. Your counselor will ask for your social security number, but it will be encrypted to keep it secure and protected. This number will help us match all information clearly to your file; however, if you do not want to give us your social security number, you can still take part in the study. All information is stored in computers at the Center for Drug and Alcohol Research and the Adolescent Health and Recovery Treatment and Training (AHARTT) program office at the University of Kentucky that are secure and under password protection. Files are encrypted to further protect your confidentiality.

To help us protect your privacy, we have obtained a Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health. With this Certificate, the researchers cannot be forced to disclose information that may identify you, even by a court subpoena, in any federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceedings. The researchers will use the Certificate to resist any demands for information that would identify you, except as explained below.

You should know that we may provide information to appropriate individuals or agencies if harm to you, harm to others, or child abuse is disclosed to us. The Certificate cannot be used to resist a demand for information from personnel of the United States Government that is used for auditing or evaluation of Federally funded projects or for information that must be disclosed in order to meet the requirements of the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). You should understand that a Certificate of Confidentiality does not prevent you from voluntarily releasing information about yourself or your involvement in this research. In addition, the staff of the University of Kentucky may also see your information if necessary.

WILL I RECEIVE ANY REWARDS FOR TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY?

You will receive \$20 for a completed follow-up interview at 12 months after treatment. In order to get the \$20 you must take part in the follow-up interview, and then payment will be mailed to you. If you are paid over \$600 in any year from various studies, the University of Kentucky has to report this as income to the IRS.

WHAT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Before you decide whether to participate in this follow-up study, please ask any questions that might come to mind now. Later, if you have questions about the study, you can contact the Principal Investigator, Jennifer Cole at 859-257-9332. If you have any questions about your rights as a volunteer in this research, contact the staff in the Office of Research Integrity at the University of Kentucky at 859-257-9428 or toll-free at 1-866-400-9428. You may also contact the Cabinet for Health and Family Services Institutional Review Board (CHFS-IRB) at 502-564-5497 ext. 4102. We will give you a copy of this consent form to take with you.

WHAT ELSE DO I NEED TO KNOW?

This study is funded by the Kentucky Division of Behavioral Health and the CHFS through the Attorney General's Office to better understand the treatment of substance abuse in state-funded programs and the impact the Attorney General's Office funds have on the effectiveness and scope of adolescent substance abuse treatment in the state. You will be told if any new information is learned which may influence your willingness to continue taking part in this study.