



Surveillance, Monitoring Absenteeism & Respiratory Transmission Study

The purpose of the SMART2 (Surveillance, Monitoring Absenteeism & Respiratory Transmission) Study is to figure out how respiratory diseases, such as the flu, spread in schools, families, and communities.

SMART2 is funded by a grant from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Researchers from the University of Pittsburgh and University of Florida are working with Canon-McMillan and Fox Chapel Schools.

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.

WHAT IS BEING DONE

- Parents of absent students will be contacted by phone or email during flu season (October 2016-April 2017) to determine if they have flu-like symptoms.
- Students with flu-like symptoms may be tested for the flu using a simple nasal swab.
- Parents will be asked if their children had a flu shot.
- Parents also have the option of joining a family study which researches the spread of respiratory diseases, like the flu, in families.
- Participating students will be eligible for a drawing for an Apple iPad.
- Participation is voluntary. There is no penalty for not participating.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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