

Dear NYU CHES Participant,

We appreciate these are challenging times, and are especially grateful to those of you who have already completed our baseline COVID-19 stress questionnaire. **We are happy to announce that we can now provide a \$30 gift card as a token of appreciation for your time in participating in this questionnaire.** If you already completed the questionnaire, thank you — our staff will reach out to you to make arrangements to send you your gift card by email or in the mail.

More than 1200 of you have responded so far and told us the effects of the pandemic on your lives. Many of you have been infected or have loved ones who have suffered as a result of COVID-19. Many families are facing economic difficulties or job losses. There are many reasons why this is a difficult time.

While NYU CHES was not designed to study infections, our goal in NYU CHES is to improve the lives of children and families for generations to come, which now includes understanding how COVID-19 is affecting our participants' health. **In the coming weeks, we will offer COVID-19 viral and antibody testing using samples that you and your family members can collect at home. This testing will be available to participants who have filled out the baseline COVID-19 stress questionnaire and all family members living in the household.**

Since these tests are based on novel techniques and have not been clinically validated at this time, we cannot provide these results. This means that the tests may not be reliable for diagnostic purposes. However, these methods of COVID-19 viral testing may become clinically validated in the future. If this happens, we will share the results and we will explain these results to you so that you are able to understand them.

With this in mind, those of you who have already completed the baseline COVID-19 stress questionnaire will receive an invitation to participate in a follow-up study where you and those who live in your home will regularly provide saliva and other biological samples every 2 months for a 2-year period. Each time your household provides these samples, you will receive a \$100 gift card as well as a \$30 gift card for completing an accompanying questionnaire.

**If you have not yet responded to the baseline COVID-19 stress questionnaire, you can still do so by clicking on the link in one of the emails we have sent you.** If you prefer to complete the questionnaire by phone, you can call us at 855-NYU-CHES (855-698-2437) or send an email to [NYUCHES@nyulangone.org](mailto:NYUCHES@nyulangone.org) and one of our staff members will be in contact with you.

For those who have completed the questionnaire, we will be emailing, phoning, and/or texting you to explain the next steps to participate in this virus and antibody testing.

While we navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, please forgive any delays with any physical mail we are sending to you, including any swag or physical gift cards, as we are trying to minimize the spread of COVID-19 to you and our staff. We will do our best to send as many electronic gift cards as possible.

DC 06/22/2020

Approved For Period: 6/10/2020 - 1/15/2021

The information you are helping us to gather on how families are coping with COVID-19 in the epicenter of the pandemic is going to have impact far beyond New York City. Thank you for contributing to our understanding of this virus and, most importantly, for being a part of our NYU CHES community.

Stay safe and well,

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