

**University of South Carolina School of Medicine
USC Genetic Counseling Program**

Dear Potential Participant:

You are invited to take part in a graduate research study focusing on psychosocial support provided to families of children with Down syndrome by pediatric health care professionals. I am a graduate student in the genetic counseling program at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. My research looks at parent's perspectives on the support given to their family through their child's pediatric health care. The research involves taking a survey that is online. Each survey is meant to be filled out individually by either parent.

The survey contains a series of questions about your child with Down syndrome and the types of medical providers he/she sees on a regular basis. The survey also asks about your opinions and perspectives on the level of psychosocial/emotional support that is offered by your child's pediatric health care providers.

All responses from the surveys will be kept anonymous and confidential. The results of this study might be published or presented at scientific meetings; however, your answers will not be identified in any way. The survey should take about 10-15 minutes to complete.

Your participation in this research is voluntary. By completing the survey, you are consenting that you have read and understand this information. At any time, you may withdraw from the study by exiting out of the survey.

Thank you for your time and consideration for taking part in this study. Your answers may help health care professionals provide the best care for children with genetic conditions and their families. If you have any questions about this research, you may contact my faculty adviser, Richard Ferrante, Ph.D., or me using the information below. If you have any questions about your rights as a research member, you may contact the Office of Research Compliance at the University of South Carolina at (803) 777-7095.

Sincerely,

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