



National Center for Immunization  
and Respiratory Diseases  
1600 Clifton Road, NE  
Mail Stop E-05  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

**From the Director, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases:**

I am asking for your help with an important study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) called the National Immunization Survey (NIS). This survey tells us which immunizations children in the U.S. have received and about other important health topics. Results from the NIS are used to help health officials in their efforts to protect the health of children. Since the NIS began in 1994, over 500,000 parents and over 300,000 healthcare providers have participated. In the next few weeks, NORC at the University of Chicago will call your household to ask you to take part in this study for CDC. Your personal information will be kept confidential and is protected by federal law.

In the first part of this study, we will ask you about your child's immunizations and health. Some households may also be asked questions about the health services their children need or use. In the second part, we will ask for your permission to contact your child's healthcare providers to ask about immunizations each provider has given to them. If you have a child between 17 and 37 months of age or a teen aged 13-17 years, it will be helpful to have the names and addresses of their healthcare providers handy.

Your phone number was chosen randomly by computer. It is important for us to interview every household we call to get a complete picture of your area's immunization rates and key factors that might affect them. The study is important, but you do not have to take part, or you can decide not to answer one or more questions.

You may call us toll free at **1-877-220-4805** if you would like to take part in the study or to learn more about the study and what you will be asked. For more information, turn this letter over or go to the study web site: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/nis](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/nis).

Your answers to the NIS will provide information to help improve the nation's health now and in the years ahead. We need your help and hope you will decide to take part when we call.

Thank you for your cooperation. I am grateful for your help.

Sincerely,

Nancy Messonnier, M.D.  
Director, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
Captain, United States Public Health Service

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## **What is NORC at the University of Chicago?**

NORC at the University of Chicago (NORC) is an independent research organization that conducts interviews on immunizations and children's health for the CDC. Additional information on NORC can be found on its website at [www.norc.org](http://www.norc.org).

## **NORC Toll Free Number: 1-877-220-4805**

You can call the NORC toll free number to take part in the study, learn more about the study, and hear what you will be asked.

## **Who sees my answers?**

You will be called by a trained interviewer who enters your answers into a computer. Everyone who works on the survey must sign an oath that promises they will never give out anyone's personal information. Only a few people who work on this survey ever see any personal information. Answers that could identify you or your family in any way are separated from your other answers. Survey findings are put into summary reports that contain no names or other information that identifies you.

## **How do you protect my information?**

Your answers are used for health research purposes only. We conduct this survey under the Public Health Service Act and the Privacy Act. These laws require that we protect your family's information and keep it confidential. If you would like to know more about how we protect your answers, these laws are described in detail at [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/nis/confidentiality.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/nis/confidentiality.html).

If you want to know more about your rights as a study participant you may call the NORC Institutional Review Board at 1-866-309-0542.

## **How do I find more about immunizations and places to get them?**

You may call toll free 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636) for more information about vaccinations or to get the phone number of a doctor or clinic near you.

## **If you prefer to use a TTY**



Please call the AT&T Relay Service at 711 and request that NORC be called at 1-877-220-4805.