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# Consent to Participate in a Research Study

**Why are we doing this research study?**

This survey is part of a research study funded by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and conducted by RTI International. The mission of the FDA is to promote and protect public health. The purpose of this research study is to assess young adults’ health beliefs and behaviors and opinions about health-related advertisements. About 4,435 young adults aged 18-24 are being asked to take this survey.

**What will happen if you participate in this research study?**

This research study consists of a single online survey that will take about 15 minutes to complete. If you choose to participate, you will complete an online survey that asks you about your opinions about health-related beliefs, behaviors, and advertisements. After the study is over, we will not contact you again unless we need to tell you about a privacy incident (described in the Risks section below).

**Voluntary Participation**

It is your choice to participate in this study. If you do not want to take the survey, that is okay. If you get to a question on the survey that you do not want to answer or makes you uncomfortable, you can skip it. You can drop out of the survey at any time for any reason by closing your Internet browser. There will be no penalty, and you will not lose any benefits or rights you would normally have if you decide not to participate. If you do choose to drop-out of the survey, you will not receive your token of appreciation. If you have any questions about this study, you may call the Study Coordinator or RTI’s Office of Research Protection listed below.

**Risks**

There are minimal risks to participating in this study. Some of the questions on the survey may be sensitive or personal. If you have any questions about this study, you may call the Study Coordinator at the telephone number listed on the last page of this form. **You may stop participating in this study at any time if you want to stop participating** for any reason. We will take care to protect the data you share. However, as with all studies, there may be risks which are currently unknown. There is a chance that privacy could be broken by accident or as the result of hacking. In the unlikely event that the study data are hacked, we will tell you within 5 business days of discovery. We will do our best to maintain the privacy of data collected during the study by using standard online data safeguards.

**Benefits**

There are no direct benefits to you from taking the survey. Indirect benefits include helping improve health-related media campaigns.

**Use of Information**

Information will be used only for research purposes. Your responses will be combined with answers from many others and reported in summary form. When we analyze the results, your responses will be separated from the information that identified you, and no identifying information will be included in any reports. Your responses, which will not include identifying information, may be used for future research studies. Identifying information will not be shared outside the research team. We will not request additional consent for future uses of the data for research.

**Payment for Participating**

[SOCIAL MEDIA PARTICIPANTS ONLY]: You will receive a $5 Amazon digital gift card as a token of appreciation if you complete the survey. If you decide to stop participating before the survey is over, you will not receive the $5 Amazon digital gift card.

[PANEL PARTICIPANTS ONLY]: You will receive panel points as a token of appreciation if you complete the survey. If you decide to stop participating before the survey is over, you will not receive panel points.

**Confidentiality**

Every effort will be made so that that no one will be able to know how you answered the questions. However, protection of your information cannot be guaranteed. The information collected from you during the survey will be kept in a secure database to which only authorized project staff members will have access. Your answers to the survey questions will be combined with answers from many other participants and reported in summary form. Upon completion of the study, we are required to store study data for at least 5 years. Study data will be stored securely on a password-protected computer without any of your personal information. Information from this study may be published in professional journals or presented at scientific conferences, but your identifiable information will not be included in any report or presentation. All research staff are committed to privacy and have signed an agreement to maintain the privacy of study data.

This research is covered by a special protection (called a Certificate of Confidentiality) from the FDA. This special protection makes sure that staff involved in this project protect your privacy. This means that project staff generally cannot provide your name, or any other information that could identify you, to anyone who is not connected with the project. Project staff cannot share this information in court or during other legal proceedings, unless you agree, even if there is a court order for the information. However, in other settings, project staff may share study information that could identify you if:

* you agree to share information (for example, to get medical treatment);
* the study information is used for other scientific research, as allowed by law;
* the FDA, which is paying for the study, needs information to check how their research money is being spent; or
* a law requires sharing information (for example, when project staff must report to FDA, or if project staff hear threats of harm to others or reports of child abuse).

The Certificate of Confidentiality does not prevent you from sharing any personal information or information about your involvement in this study with others, if you choose to.

**Questions**

If you have any questions about this study, you can call the Study Coordinator, Kim Hayes at [nextupsurvey@rti.org](mailto:nextupsurvey@rti.org) or 919-541-1215. If you have a question about your rights as a study participant, you can call RTI’s Office of Research Protection toll-free at (866) 214-2043.

If you would like a copy of this consent form for your records, you can print out or take a screenshot of the screen(s) showing this information.

Do you agree to participate in the survey?

1. Yes, I agree to participate in the survey

2. No, I do not agree to participate the survey

[IF YES, GO TO PRIVACY STATEMENT]

[IF NO, GO TO END]

[INCLUDE THE STATEMENT BELOW IN SMALLER GREY FONT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE]

**PRIVACY STATEMENT**

Please find a private place to take this survey where no one can see your answers. Please do not complete the survey while driving.

[GO TO SURVEY]

**END**

Thank you for your time.