



### Why is this research study being done?

The purpose of this research is to investigate the association of environmental factors and the risk of certain childhood cancers in Southwestern Pennsylvania, using information from the PA's Cancer Registry of children with cancer (cases) compared to a group of individuals without cancer (controls).

Childhood cancer is the third leading cause of death in US children, yet there are very few known risk factors. Pitt Public Health is conducting this study to consider some of the factors in our environment that may play a role. More than 12,000 wells have been drilled and fracked in this region, releasing dozens of chemicals into the environment. The full impact of these actions are unknown.

We hope that the outcome of this study will add to our knowledge of the environmental risk factors for childhood cancer and prevent these cases in the future.

University of Pittsburgh  
Graduate School of Public Health  
Department of Epidemiology  
130 DeSoto Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261

## Case Control Study: Childhood Cancer in Southwestern Pennsylvania



Recruiting Parents of Children Without  
Childhood Cancer as Controls for an  
Important Study

**Please see why inside!**

**University of Pittsburgh  
Graduate School of Public Health**



### How did we get your name?

- ◆ Information was obtained from the PA birth records (by county) from the Department of Health.
- ◆ The participants in both groups must be matched in the following categories: **Age, Gender, Race, and County.**

### What will parents be asked to do?

- ◆ Complete a one-time, 45-60 minute telephone interview
  - ◇ Includes questions about parent/ child health, residential, and family history
- ◆ You will be compensated for your time

### Why are we asking you to participate in this study?

- ◆ We are recruiting a control group—families of children without cancer—to compare to families of children with this condition, in order to identify potential risk factors for childhood cancer.
- ◆ Participation in this study will serve as an important and personal contribution in helping identify risk factors for childhood cancer.



- ◆ Participation in this study is limited to the following counties:
  - ◇ **Allegheny County**
  - ◇ **Armstrong County**
  - ◇ **Beaver County**
  - ◇ **Butler County**
  - ◇ **Fayette County**
  - ◇ **Greene County**
  - ◇ **Washington County**
  - ◇ **Westmoreland County**

### Other Information

- ◆ We will only be speaking with parents
- ◆ Any information provided for this research study will be kept strictly confidential

### Participation is voluntary!

- ◆ If you do chose to participate, you can withdraw from the study at any time
- ◆ If you do not wish to be contacted again, simply return the enclosed response card with the “NO” box checked.

### Contact Information

**Evelyn O. Talbott, DrPH, MPH**  
Principal Investigator

- ◆ **Phone:** (412) 648-5185
- ◆ **Email:** eot1@pitt.edu
- ◆ **Project Office Location:**  
University of Pittsburgh  
Graduate School of Public Health  
A545 Public Health Building,  
130 De Soto St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15261