Aim 1 User Test Informed Consent for Adolescents Seeking Care Independently

Title of Research Study: ***Pragmatic Efficacy Trial of mHealth to Improve HIV Outcomes in the DC Cohort***
Investigator: ***Amanda D. Castel, MD, MPH, Department of Epidemiology***

IRB# NCR202829

Key Information:

You are being asked to take part in a research study to understand if having access to a smartphone app can improve regular participation in HIV medical care (also known as retention in care) and maintenance of a viral load below a certain level (also known as viral suppression) among people living with HIV. This page will give you key information to help you decide whether or not you want to participate in this study. If you are between the ages of 16 and 17 and you are getting your medical care by yourself, you are allowed to decide to be in this study for yourself. More detailed information can be found on the next pages. Ask the research team questions during the consent process and use the contact information on this form to ask questions later.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE, PROCEDURES, AND DURATION OF THIS STUDY?

You are being asked to take part in a task-focused individual user testing session where you will be shown a smartphone app, download the app, and asked to provide your opinions. You will also be asked to complete a 15-minute online survey.

Testing the mobile application may help the research team identify any unexpected issues with features of the app or other unexpected technical issues. This information will be used to make changes to the smartphone app, plan and create health programs, and to create new ways of improving retention in care and viral suppression among people living with HIV. Your participation in this research will last about 1 hour.

WHAT ARE THE REASONS YOU MIGHT CHOOSE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS STUDY?

You will not benefit directly by being in this study. You may be given information on HIV care and treatment.

WHAT ARE THE REASONS YOU MIGHT NOT CHOOSE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS STUDY?

The main risk of this study is the loss of your privacy or confidentiality, including someone outside of the research finding out that you participated. Steps will be taken (detailed below) to reduce that risk.

DO YOU HAVE TO TAKE PART IN THIS STUDY?

You do not have to take part in this research. It is your choice whether or not you want to take part. You can agree to take part and later change your mind. If you choose not to take part or choose to stop taking part at any time, there will be no punishment to you or loss of benefits that you would otherwise receive.

WHAT IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

The person in charge of this study is Amanda Castel, M.D., M.P.H. If you have questions, suggestions, or concerns regarding this study or you want to withdraw from the study her contact information is: (202) 994-8325.

This research is being overseen by an Institutional Review Board ("IRB"). You may talk to them at 202-994-2715 or via email at ohrirb@gwu.edu if:

- You have questions, concerns, or complaints that are not being answered by the research team or if you wish to talk to someone independent of the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research subject.

Detailed Consent Form:

Why am I being invited to take part in a research study?

We invite you to take part in a research study because you are a person living with HIV who is enrolled in the DC Cohort.

Who can I talk to if I have questions?

If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, talk to the research team at 202-994-8325.

This research is being overseen by an Institutional Review Board ("IRB"). You may talk to them at 202-994-2715 or via email at ohrirb@gwu.edu if:

- You have questions, concerns, or complaints that are not being answered by the research team or if you wish to talk to someone independent of the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research subject.

Why is this research being done?

This research study is being led by The University of Virginia (UVA) and The George Washington University (GWU). The purpose of this study is to understand if having access to a smartphone app can improve retention in care and viral suppression among people living with HIV (PLWH). Information collected in this research study will be used to:

- Determine what people living with HIV know about retention in care and viral suppression
- Determine what makes it easy and what makes it difficult to participate in regular HIV medical care and maintain of a viral load below a certain level
- Determine what app features are most relevant for patients
- Inform the adaptation of the app most useful for retention in care
- Guide future research on retention in care and viral suppression

How long will I be in the study?

We expect that you will be in this research study for about 1 hour.

How many people will take part in this research study?

We expect about 14 people will take part in this part of the study.

What happens if I agree to be in this research?

If you agree to be in this study, this is what will happen:

1. You will be asked to take part in a task-focused individual user testing session where you will be shown a smartphone app, download the app, and asked to provide your opinions.

2. During the session, 1-2 members of the research staff will ask you questions about your opinions of the mobile application. The session may take place via Zoom or WebEx and will be audio recorded to ensure that your responses are complete and accurate. The audio recording that comes from the interview will be kept for up to three years after the study has ended. After that time, it will be destroyed. The tape will not be directly connected to your name or identifying information.

3. During the session, we will assign you a pretend name to help protect your confidentiality. Every effort will be made to protect your information however, this cannot be promised and there is the possible risk that someone will find out you participated in the interview. You may refuse to answer any of the questions, and you may take a break at any time during the session. You may stop taking part in this study at any time. The interview will be confidential and whatever is shared here should not be discussed outside of this session.

4. After the session, you will complete a survey in REDCap to determine how much you like the application, whether the application is easy to use, and how well the application addresses retention in care and viral suppression. You will be assigned a unique survey ID so that you can be compensated for your participation.

What other choices do I have besides taking part in the research?

You may choose not to participate in this study.

What happens if I agree to be in research, but later change my mind?

This study is completely VOLUNTARY. If you agree to participate, you are free to quit at any time. You may refuse to participate or you may discontinue your participation at any time without punishment or loss of benefits that you would otherwise receive.

Is there any way being in this study could be bad for me?

The main risk of this study is the loss of your privacy or confidentiality, including someone outside of the research finding out that you participated.

Will being in this study help me in any way?

You will not benefit directly by being in this study. You may be given information on HIV treatment and care. Testing the mobile application may help the research team identify any unexpected issues with features of the app or other unexpected technical issues. This information will be used to make changes to the related mobile application, plan and create health programs, and to create new ways of increasing retention in care and viral suppression among people living with HIV.

Can I be removed from the research without my permission?

The investigator can decide to withdraw you from the study at any time. You could be taken off the study for reasons related solely to you (for example, not following study-related directions from the investigator) or because the entire study is stopped.

What happens to my information collected for the research?

The GWU and UVA research teams will take special care to protect the information you provide. Your responses will not be associated with your name. Surveys will be labeled with a survey ID. During the interview you will only be identified by a pseudonym or pretend name. No one except the study staff at UVA and GWU will have access to the information provided in the interview. Your responses will be grouped with interview responses from other persons being interviewed. Direct quotes from this interview may be used in reports or transcripts. However, no personal identifiers will be used, and the format would include language such as "A participant stated that "XXX". While your responses are not associated with your real name, there is a very slight chance that an unauthorized person may get access to them. We will take a number of steps to help prevent this:

1. The digital recording will be stored in a secured file on a computer. Survey data will be securely stored at GWU. Only specific members of the study staff will have access to the file and survey data.
2. Your name or other identifying information will not be included on or associated with any publication of the research.
3. You may refuse to answer any questions at any time for any reason. If you refuse to answer a question or want to end your participation this user testing session you will not be penalized in any way.

We will do everything we can to keep others from learning about your participation in this study. To further help us protect your privacy, we have obtained a Certificate of Confidentiality from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). With this certificate, we cannot be forced (for example by court order or subpoena) to disclose information that may identify you in any federal, state, local, civil, criminal, legislative, administrative, or other proceedings. You should understand that a Certificate of Confidentiality does not prevent you, or a member of your family, from voluntarily releasing information about yourself or your involvement in this study. The researchers however, will not disclose voluntarily, or without your consent, information that would identify you as a participant in this research project, except to prevent serious harm to you or others, as explained below.

If an insurer, medical provider, or other person learns about your participation, and obtains your consent to receive research information, then we may not use the Certificate of Confidentiality to withhold this information. This means that you and your family must also actively protect your own privacy. You should understand that we will in all cases, take the necessary action and report to authorities, any indication of abuse, and to prevent serious harm to yourself, children, or others, for example, as in the case of child abuse or neglect, or harm to yourself or others. Disclosure will be necessary, however, upon request of DHHS for the purpose of audit or evaluation, and is limited only to DHHS employees involved in Study evaluation.

Are there any costs for participating in this research?

There is no cost to you to participate in this user testing session.

Will I be paid for my participation in this research?

You will be compensated for the time you spend taking part in this user testing session. For completion of the user testing (which includes a survey and interview), you will get $50 in a gift card.

What else do I need to know?

This research is being funded by National Institutes of Health.

Agreement

To ensure confidentiality your signature is not required. A copy will be emailed to you if you request it.

Your willingness to participate in this research study is implied if you proceed.