

INDIANA UNIVERSITY STUDY INFORMATION SHEET FOR

Investigating Communication Preferences after Pregnancy Loss

You are invited to participate in a research study of women's preferences for communication with health care providers after pregnancy loss. We ask that you read this form and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

The study is being conducted by Dr. Maria Brann and Dr. Jennifer Bute from the Department of Communication Studies at IUPUI.

STUDY PURPOSE

The purpose of this study is to better understand the preferences of women who have experienced a pregnancy loss for communication and ongoing grief screening with a health care provider.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE TAKING PART IN THE STUDY:

If you agree to participate, you will be one of approximately 60 participants who will be participating in this research.

PROCEDURES FOR THE STUDY:

If you agree to be in the study that involves discussing sensitive topics (support resources will be provided for all participants about the topics discussed), you will do the following things:

You will first complete a demographic questionnaire that will take less than 10 minutes to complete. You will then take part in one online focus group interview that will last about 2 hours. During the interview, you, along with 5-10 other women who have experienced pregnancy loss, will engage in a group discussion about your preferences for being screened for prolonged grief, preferred language during that screening, and communication preferences with health care providers. The focus group interview will take place via Zoom and will be recorded.

RISKS AND BENEFITS OF TAKING PART IN THE STUDY:

A risk of participating in this research are the potential for being uncomfortable sharing or hearing about pregnancy loss. You have the option to skip questions that you do not want to answer. You also have the option to leave the interview at any time if you feel too uncomfortable to proceed. The researchers request that all participants refrain from discussing the interview outside the context of the study, but we cannot guarantee that the other participants will not discuss the session.

There is also a risk someone outside the study team could get access to your research information from this study. More information about how we will protect your information to reduce this risk is below.

The possible benefit of participating in this research is a feeling of catharsis from talking about your feelings in a safe and nonjudgmental environment. In addition, the information gleaned from this project could be used to inform the development of an ongoing grief screening tool and materials to train health care providers to improve their communication about grief and pregnancy loss.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Efforts will be made to keep your personal information confidential. We cannot guarantee absolute confidentiality. Your personal information may be disclosed if required by law. Your identity will be held in confidence in reports in which the study may be published.

We ask that you respect the privacy of the group and not to discuss information said in the focus groups outside of these focus groups. This will help to maintain the confidentiality of participants' private information.

Each focus group interview recording will be transcribed using the Zoom closed captioning function. Afterwards, all identifying information (e.g., names, locations) will be removed from the transcripts, and names will be replaced with pseudonyms. The data will be protected by storing all audio files and transcript documents in password-protected files on the investigators' campus computers. Recorded files will be destroyed five years after the conclusion of the project. Any paper documents associated with the project will be stored in the investigators' locked offices on the IUPUI campus.

Organizations that may inspect and/or copy your research records for quality assurance and data analysis include groups such as the study investigators and their research associates, and the Indiana University Institutional Review Board or its designees, and (as allowed by law) state or federal agencies, who may need to access your research records.

PAYMENT

You will receive a \$25 gift card to a national retailer if you complete the questionnaire and the entire focus group session.

CONTACTS FOR QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS

For questions about the study, contact researcher Dr. Maria Brann at mabrann@iupui.edu or 317.274.8562. For questions about your rights as a research participant or to discuss problems, complaints, or concerns about a research study, or to obtain information, or offer input, contact the IU Human Subjects Office at (800) 696-2949 or by e-mail at irb@iu.edu.

VOLUNTARY NATURE OF STUDY

Taking part in this study is voluntary. You may choose not to take part or may leave the study at any time. Leaving the study will not result in any penalty or loss of benefits to which you are entitled. Your decision whether or not to participate in this study will not affect your current or future relations with Indiana University or IUPUI.