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Request for Participants for Clinical Study of Survivors of PANS

Hello! My name is Dr. Jamie Candelaria-Greene, the author of PANS, CANS, and Automobiles: A Comprehensive Reference Guide for Helping Students with PANDAS and PANS.

Currently, I am working on the second edition of this book. For one of the chapters, I'm conducting a qualitative study on the academic experience of those who were diagnosed with PANS while they were still in school. If you are a PANS survivor and interested in contributing to this work, *thank you!* I expect to complete the interviews by December 31st of 2022.

This study focuses on those who've experienced a noticeable recovery of PANS symptoms, following medical treatment. (For example, participants are able to reflect back on and recognize ways in which their treatment affected their health and well-being.) At the time of the interview, one should ideally be between the ages of 21 and 31 years of age, and have at least one year of either significantly improved PANS symptoms, or no symptoms. At the same time, if you are over 18 years of age and feel that you would be able to contribute to this study, your participation would be welcome too.

No written questionnaires or rating scales are required to participate. In this interview, I will verbally ask you open-ended questions about your academic experience- before, during, and after your remission from PANS. Specifically, I will focus on how your PANS symptoms affected your academic progress, and your life inside and outside of the classroom. Examples of questions include the effects of PANS-related symptoms on your learning and academic achievement, and the effects (both positive and negative) of any school-related interventions and support that you may have received, etc.

You are free to limit your feedback to short answers. Response times can vary between 30 minutes and over, depending on the depth and breadth of your responses. You can also choose to provide feedback to me over several sessions. Interviews are conducted in person or online (using the HIPPA-compliant *Doxy.me* program). Of course, multiple steps are taken to ensure your privacy and anonymity. This study is solely dependent on volunteers. Whereas monetary compensation is not provided, each participant will be given a copy of the second edition of the book, (and/or) published article, upon request and publication.

Should you choose to participate, please know that you would be contributing to the first study of its kind. This research is designed to glean the unique perspectives of the PANS sufferers *themselves*. Your feedback is essential, in that it will allow us to greatly expand our understanding of this illness. Conversely, without the opportunity to learn from you- and from others who've experienced PANS firsthand, we will never be able to form a complete picture of this illness, nor of its true impact.

As with the first edition of the book, a portion of the royalties will go to non-profit organizations dedicated to support PANS outreach and research efforts. For more information about this Study, kindly contact my office directly at contact@drcandelariagreene.com. I can also be reached at 510-301-3428. Lastly, more information about me, and about my work, can be found on my website above.

Thank you!

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