

# **Cornell Institute for Translational Research on Aging (CITRA)**

## **Older Adult Research Subject Pool**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **In general, what is this about? (Project Overview)**

The Cornell Institute for Translational Research on Aging, known as CITRA, is sponsoring this recruitment effort. Karl Pillemer is the director of CITRA and is also a faculty member in the College of Human Ecology. Karl and the staff at CITRA are collaborating with other faculty members in the College to develop this older adult subject pool in response to a growing need by researchers at Cornell interested in recruiting older (age 60 +) respondents/subjects to participate in a variety of research projects.

#### **What is the purpose of the survey?**

This is technically not a study. We are recruiting respondents for future studies conducted by Cornell researchers. We have already recruited 200 older adults, age 60 or older from Tompkins County, for the inclusion an older adult subject pool. Researchers at Cornell interested in recruiting older respondents into their studies will have access to this pool.

#### **How extensive is the survey (i.e. who is the sample)?**

We are recruiting respondents who are age 60 or older to be part of an older adult respondent pool for use by Cornell researchers. We are recruiting respondents from Tompkins County using a variety of methods. We are calling a sample of Tompkins County residents and we are recruiting respondents into the pool by word of mouth as well.

#### **What are the eligibility requirements to participate in this survey?**

We are looking for respondents who are 60 years old or older, live in Tompkins County, and are able to answer a short (10 minute) questionnaire.

#### **Who is sponsoring this recruitment effort?**

The Cornell Institute for Translational Research on Aging, known as CITRA is sponsoring this study. CITRA is a central resource in the College of Human Ecology (CHE) regarding research on older adults and, as such, is uniquely positioned to be at the center of a community of researchers interested in older adults. Karl Pillemer is the director of CITRA and is also a faculty member in the College of Human Ecology. Karl and the staff at CITRA are collaborating with other faculty members in the College to develop this older adult subject pool.

#### **Who can I contact at CITRA to verify that this is legitimate?**

Please feel free to call Leslie Schultz, research support specialist, at CITRA. Her number is 607-255-4553. Alternatively, you can find out more about CITRA by looking at their website. The url is [www.CITRA.org](http://www.CITRA.org). You can use the “contact us” page to email your inquiry about the older adult subject pool to CITRA staff.

### **Will I get paid to participate in a study?**

We are not offering any payment for agreeing to have your name and information added to the older adult subject pool. It is possible that you may be contacted by a research project that is paying respondents to participate.

### **Once I agree to be in the subject pool, do I have to agree to participate in all the studies that contact me?**

By agreeing to be in the older adult subject pool, you have agreed to be contacted by research projects being conducted here at Cornell. You may not be contacted by any projects to participate or you could be contacted by a number of different projects to participate. This all depends on the timing and needs of the projects.

When you are contacted by a research project and asked to participate, you always have the right to refuse.

### **Do I have to answer all the questions you are asking me now in order to have my name included in the subject pool?**

As with all studies conducted at Cornell, participants always have the right of refusal at any time during the research process. The information we are collecting today is very important to the researchers interested in using the older adult subject pool. Most studies will have very particular requirements for respondents regarding their characteristics. Some studies may need all women, some studies only want to include people who did not attend college, other studies may want folks who 65 years of age or older. The usefulness of the subject pool to the researchers at Cornell relies on being able to select potential respondents from the pool for any one researchers study.

We will never give your personal information to anyone but the researchers at Cornell who have received approval for their research from Cornell's institutional review board or IRB. Cornell's IRB upholds the highest standards of review to ensure that your safety and well-being are of the utmost priority to researchers. In addition, research projects are required to maintain individual respondent confidentiality unless they inform you that they will not do so. As always, you have the right to refuse participation at any point in a research project.

### **Is it possible that I will not be contacted by any study? or How many research projects will contact me?**

By agreeing to be in the older adult subject pool, you have agreed to be contacted by research projects being conducted here at Cornell. You may not be contacted by any projects to participate or you could be contacted by a number of different projects to participate. This all depends on the timing and needs of the projects.

### **How will I get/travel to the study?**

There are a variety of ways people can travel to the Cornell campus. You can drive and park in visitor parking, you can take a TCAT bus or Gadabout bus, you could even take a taxi. Individual research projects will be prepared to assist you in getting to campus to participate. Some projects may find some space downtown to run their experiments or interview respondents. Other projects may simply want to conduct an interview over the phone and not require you to travel outside of your home. When you are contacted by the research project staff, they will explain the specific nature of their research and the travel needs, if any, of that project.