

What is the MoCHAPS survey?

The Missouri Child Health Assessment Program Survey (MoCHAPS) is a program developed to provide a better understanding of what affects the health of very young children in Missouri.

This survey has been conducted annually in Missouri since 2008. Collecting this essential health information allows for a better understanding of the first few years of life. These years of a child's life are very important and provide the basis of a strong and healthy future.

Why was I sent a MoCHAPS survey?

You were sent a MoCHAPS survey because you participated in the Missouri Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) survey. The MoCHAPS survey is only sent to mothers who responded to the PRAMS survey. The PRAMS survey that you completed two years ago provided vital information about you and your baby soon after birth. In that survey you answered questions about your life before, during, and after your pregnancy. MoCHAPS is a follow-up to the PRAMS survey and includes questions relating to your child's early years of life.

Will my answers be kept private?

Yes!! This is an important issue, and one we take very seriously. Mothers' personal answers are never shared with other state programs. All answers from those who respond to the MoCHAPS survey are grouped together. Reports from this study will never be traced back to you or your child. Everything you respond to in this survey will remain confidential.

There are no right or wrong answers to the questions in this survey. As your answers are confidential, you can feel comfortable sharing information based on your own life experiences.

Is it really important that I answer these questions?

Yes!! The MoCHAPS survey is only sent to mothers who responded to the PRAMS survey. Therefore, you are one of only a few mothers being asked to help. Your answers will represent others in the state who were not selected for this study. Because of this limited inclusion of mothers, it is very important that every MoCHAPS survey be completed and returned. This will allow us to develop the most accurate picture of the health and welfare of very young children in Missouri.

Remember, your response is extremely important whether or not your child has had any health problems. We want to know how you honestly feel about the topics covered in the questionnaire. Your personal response is unique and valued.

Some of the questions don't seem related to children's health. Why are they asked?

Many diverse factors in a child's life can affect their health and well-being. The MoCHAPS survey questions are designed to give the most complete picture of the health and welfare of very young children in Missouri.

What do the MoCHAPS and PRAMS programs do with their information?

The information that you and other mothers have already shared with the PRAMS and MoCHAPS programs has made a big difference. The PRAMS and MoCHAPS surveys use the information to help in developing health programs and policies. The survey data is used to help doctors and nurses improve care. It is also important to help the state make more efficient use of health resources.

The information that you are providing is allowing us to try to improve the long term health and well-being of Missouri's children.

What if I want to ask more questions about MoCHAPS?

Please call us toll free at 866-933-4166. We will be happy to answer any of your questions.

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services • Office of Epidemiology • health.mo.gov/mochaps