Key Information for Participatory Design of an AI Chatbot to Support Adolescent Mental Health

What Am I Being Asked To Do?

You are invited to take part in a research study that involves participating in participatory design workshops to provide input on the design and refinement of an AI chatbot intended to support adolescent mental health. You will be asked to share your perspectives, review and critique prototype versions of the chatbot, and provide feedback to guide iterative improvements. We ask that you read this form carefully and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to participate. Your participation is entirely voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time without penalty.

What Is This Study About and What Procedures Will You be Asked to Follow?

If you agree to be in this study,
we will ask you to complete a short demographics questionnaire after signing the consent form. You will then be invited to attend participatory design workshops, each lasting approximately 90 minutes. Workshops will be conducted virtually through secure videoconferencing. During the workshops, you will be asked to discuss chatbot needs, review and critique chatbot prototypes, suggest refinements, and validate features for chatbot use. Sessions will be audio-recorded (and video-recorded if online) with your consent, transcribed, and de-identified for analysis.

Are There Any Risks or Discomforts you Might Experience by Being in this Study?

The primary risks involve minimal risk, limited to potential loss of confidentiality. Remember, you may cease your participation in the study at any time.

What Are the Reasons You Might Want to Volunteer For This Study?

By participating in this research, you are not expected to receive personal benefits, health or otherwise, but your participation may help to gain improved understanding of clinician needs and values, contributing to the design of digital mental health tools for adolescent care.

Do You Have to Take Part in the This Study?

It is entirely your decision if you wish to be in this study or not. If you choose not to participate or choose to participate and later determine you no longer wish to, you will not lose any rights, services, or benefits as a result of your withdrawal. The study is entirely voluntary.

CONSENT FORM

Participatory Design of an AI Chatbot for Adolescent Mental Health Support

This study is being conducted by:

Munmun De Choudhury – Professor, Interactive Computing, Georgia Tech
Owen Xingjian Zhang – PhD-CS Student, Interactive Computing, Georgia Tech

Background Information

The purpose of this study is:

To engage parents in participatory design workshops in order to inform the design and refinement of an AI chatbot intended to support adolescent mental health. The study seeks to gather their perspectives on chatbot features, evaluate prototypes, and collaboratively develop design guidelines that will ensure the chatbot is user friendly, ethically appropriate, and practical for real-world care.

Eligibility:
Participants must meet the following criteria to be eligible to participate in this study:

- Your child must be currently receiving or have received mental health–related care at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA).
- You must be residing in the United States throughout the time of this task.

Procedures

If you agree to be in this study, we will ask you to do the following things:

If you agree to be in this study, we will ask you to complete a short demographics questionnaire after signing the consent form. You will then be invited to participate in a series of participatory design workshops. Each workshop will last approximately 90 minutes and will be conducted virtually through secure videoconferencing.

During workshops, you will be asked to share your perspectives, review and critique prototype versions of the AI chatbot, provide feedback on strengths and weaknesses, and suggest refinements to its features and workflows. Across the study, the workshops will move through several phases, beginning with open discussion of needs and priorities, followed by introduction and refinement of prototype tools, iterative modifications, and validation of the final version.

Sessions will be audio-recorded (and video-recorded if conducted virtually) with your consent and transcribed for analysis. All data will be de-identified during transcription, and recordings will be destroyed once transcripts are verified. Participation is entirely voluntary, and you may choose to skip any activity or withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.

Risks and Benefits of being in the Study

Potential risks of participating:

The primary risks involve minimal risk, limited to potential loss of confidentiality. Remember, you may cease your participation in the study at any time.

Benefits of participating:

By participating in this research, you are not expected to receive personal benefits, health or otherwise, but your participation may help to gain improved understanding of clinician needs and values, contributing to the design of digital mental health tools for adolescent care.

Use of Photographs, Audio, or Video Recordings

This study will involve audio and video recordings of the participatory design workshops. These recordings will be used solely for research purposes, including transcription, analysis, and verification of the study data.

Only members of the research team at Georgia Tech have access to the recordings. Members of Children's Hospital of Atlanta (CHOA) will be collaborators and coauthors but will not be involved in the conduct of the human subjects component of this project. All recordings will be stored securely on password-protected, access-controlled servers. After the recordings have been fully transcribed and the accuracy of the transcripts has been verified, the recordings will be permanently deleted. Transcripts will be de-identified before analysis.

We will not use any photographs, audio recordings, video recordings, or other identifiable information about you in any public presentations or publications without your explicit consent. If we ever wish to use such materials for public presentation (e.g., talks, posters, demonstrations), we will request your written permission beforehand. You may decline without impacting your ability to participate in the study.

Duration

Participation involves the following time commitment:
The workshop task is estimated to take approximately 90 minutes.

Compensation

You will receive the following payment:

You will be compensated for your time with $25 after the completion of the study and manual verification of the quality of workshops. The amount is based on the time participants are expected to spend.

U.S. Tax Law requires that a 1099-misc be issued if U.S. tax residents receive $600 or more per calendar year. If non-U.S. tax residents receive more than $75, mandatory 30% withholding is required. Your address and Tax I.D. may be collected for compensation purposes only. This information will be shared only with the Georgia Tech department that issues compensation, if any, for your participation.

Confidentiality

Your identity will not be revealed in any publications, presentations, or reports resulting from this research study. Any personal information that could identify you may be removed from the information you have provided and then used for future research studies, or distributed to another investigator for future research, without asking for your additional permission.

We will collect data through an online workshop portal. This data will be stored on password-protected laptops or servers. Laptops will have an automatic lockout such that a password will be required after the laptop has been in "sleep" mode. Servers will be maintained with the most current operating system and security patches available. To protect your identity, publications will refer to you only by a pseudonym and/or participant number.

To make sure that this research is being carried out in the proper way, the Georgia Institute of Technology IRB may review study records. The Office of Human Research Protections may also look at study records. The following procedures will be followed to keep your personal information confidential in this study: We will comply with any applicable laws and regulations regarding confidentiality. To protect your privacy, your records will be kept under a code number rather than by name. Your records will be kept in locked files and unless you give specific consent otherwise, only study staff will be allowed to look at them. Your name and any other fact that might point to you will not appear when results of this study are presented or published.

Questions about Your Rights as a Research Participant:

• Your participation in this study is voluntary. You do not have to be in this study if you don't want to be.
• You have the right to change your mind and leave the study at any time without giving any reason and without penalty.
• Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with Georgia Tech or Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. If you choose to participate, you are free to withdraw at any time without penalty.
• Any new information that may make you change your mind about being in this study will be given to you.
• You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.
• You do not waive any of your legal rights by signing this consent form.

If you have questions about the research study itself, please contact the Principal Investigators Munmun De Choudhury, at munmun.choudhury@cc.gatech.edu. If you have any questions about your rights as a research

subject, you may contact Georgia Institute of Technology Office of Research Integrity Assurance at IRB@gatech.edu.

By completing the online survey, you indicate your permission for your child to be in the study.