

The University of Tennessee

An Exploratory Study to Examine Compulsive Hoarding in Children and Adolescents

The aim of this study is to develop a better understanding of the onset and the clinical features of compulsive hoarding in children and adolescents. According to the limited research available on compulsive hoarding, onset of compulsive hoarding begins in childhood, and hoarding behaviors become more severe with age. Treatment with adults has demonstrated that compulsive hoarding is more resistant to traditional interventions such as medication and exposure and response prevention therapy. Very little is currently known about children and adolescents who struggle with this condition. Therefore, we are currently conducting a cross-sectional research study for information that will build our knowledge base to improve intervention strategies.

Your child must be between the ages of 8-18 and have some symptoms of obsessive compulsive behaviors with hoarding. All participants will be administered a screening instrument to determine eligibility. Both the child/adolescent and one parent must be willing to participate in telephone interviews.

If eligible, participants will participate in data collection through telephone survey. The participating parent will be interviewed first by phone. Parents will complete a demographic questionnaire, an inventory, and a timeline about their child/adolescent's behaviors. Children/adolescents will complete two inventories about their obsessive compulsive and hoarding behaviors. It is expected that the parent and child/adolescent interviews will take approximately 20-30 minutes each. Participant families will be compensated with a \$20 gift card to WalMart.

To participate in this study or for further information, please contact David Dia, PhD, LCSW, CCBT at the University of Tennessee at (901) 448-4431, or email him at ddia@utk.edu. This study is approved by the University IRB.