

Participant Information Sheet

(For parents/caregivers and children aged 6–12 years with hearing impairment)

Study Title: Effectiveness of sign language-based cartoon oral health education for hearing-impaired children

Investigators: Dr Alemar Ghannam (Principal Investigator), Prof Mayssoon Dashash, Dr Hasan Alzoubi

Institution: Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Damascus University

1. Purpose of the study

We are conducting a study to improve oral health awareness and hygiene practices among children with hearing impairments. The study uses a short cartoon film in Arabic Sign Language to teach children about teeth, oral diseases, and proper toothbrushing.

2. What participation involves

Children will be randomly assigned to intervention or control groups. Oral health checks will be done at baseline, 6 weeks, and 12 weeks. Each child will receive a toothbrush at the start.

3. Benefits and risks

Benefits: Children may gain better oral health knowledge. Risks: Minimal discomfort during oral examinations.

4. Confidentiality

All participant information will be kept strictly confidential. Names will not appear in reports.

5. Voluntary participation

Participation is voluntary. Parents may withdraw their child at any time without consequences.

6. Contact information

For questions: Dr Alemar Ghannam (al.ghannam@damascusuniv.edu.sy). For rights concerns: Biomedical Research Ethics Committee, Damascus University (president@damasuniv.edu.sy).

Consent Statement

I have read and understood the information above. I agree for my child to participate in this study.

Parent/Guardian name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____