

*"We are very fortunate to have a study to prevent eye disease among our children. Our kids are our most precious and valuable asset. When the MEPEDS interviewer comes to your door, welcome them and participate in this study!"*

*—Father Vazken Movsesian*



*"Having quality research regarding pediatric eye diseases will help us provide preventative treatments to protect our children's vision. Undiagnosed and untreated eye problems may prohibit our students from doing their best at school. I strongly encourage the parents of Glendale to have their children participate in this worthwhile study."*

*—Dr. Michael Escalante  
Superintendent of Schools, Glendale*



**230 North Maryland Avenue #107  
Glendale, CA 91206  
Call us at (818) 291-9173**



mepeds

Multi-Ethnic  
Pediatric Eye Disease  
Study







*Researchers from USC will be talking with residents in the Glendale area over the next two years in the first major eye study ever conducted among young children in the United States. The National Institutes of Health is funding MEPEDS to look at eye diseases in children from ages 6 months up to 6 years. As a parent of a Glendale child, we want to hear from you!*

### *How can my child participate?*

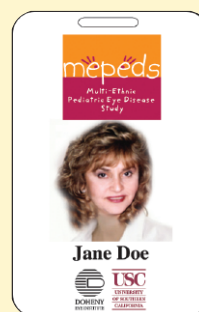
First, a MEPEDS interviewer will visit your home and ask you to answer some health-related questions. Then you will be asked to bring your child to the MEPEDS Glendale clinic to have a USC pediatric eye doctor examine your child's eyes at no cost to you.

### *Who will contact me?*

A MEPEDS interviewer will visit you at your home. Interviewers will be walking through Glendale and talking with residents of every household.

### *How will I recognize the MEPEDS interviewer?*

All interviewers will wear a badge like the one shown here as a sample.



### *When will I be contacted?*

The study began April 2008, so you may already see MEPEDS interviewers in your neighborhood. The study will take approximately two years to complete.

### *Why did you choose Glendale?*

Glendale is a strong, safe community and its population helps us get a representative sample of children in the United States.

### *Why should my child participate?*

- ✿ To make sure children of their age are represented in this study.
- ✿ To help doctors understand and improve children's eye health, general health and access to health care.
- ✿ To receive a complete eye examination for your child by a USC eye doctor at no cost to you.



### *What questions will you ask me?*

We will ask questions about your child's general health and well-being, vision, health insurance and other general information questions. You can refuse to answer a question that you do not want to answer.

### *Will you keep my answers private?*

Yes! Your answers will be strictly confidential. In fact, your answers and the answers from other children's parents will be grouped together and reported as a whole. Your name and your child's name will never appear on any report.

### *Where do I take my child for the FREE eye examination?*

We have set up an eye clinic in your neighborhood. Your MEPEDS interviewer will tell you the location of the MEPEDS clinic and make an appointment for you during the visit to your home.



### *Will I get anything for participating?*

Yes! For taking part in MEPEDS, you will receive the following:

- ✿ A thorough eye examination for your child at no cost to you conducted by a pediatric eye doctor from USC.
- ✿ A report with the results of your child's eye examination before you leave the clinic.
- ✿ A \$25 gift certificate to a local store after the eye examination is completed.
- ✿ The chance to help us learn more about the causes of eye diseases in children and to improve the quality of eye care that your child and other children receive across the United States.

### *How can I help?*

- ✿ Answer your door when your MEPEDS interviewer knocks.
- ✿ Complete the survey with your MEPEDS interviewer.
- ✿ Come to the MEPEDS clinic for your child's free eye examination.

### *What if I have more questions or I want to contact you?*

Call us at (818) 291-9173. We will be happy to speak with you and answer any questions or concerns you may have.