

What should researchers know about how to approach families to engage in research?

Fenna:

For researchers, the aim should be to get parent partners who are representative of all parents. It may be challenging to identify families who are disadvantaged, experience cultural barriers, or have language barriers. This can be especially challenging in middle and low income countries where some parents cannot read or speak the national language, only their cultural language. Pamphlets or websites cannot be used to reach them; it's only through word of mouth will they learn of opportunities. Researchers need to consider how we can ensure all parents have the opportunity to participate and how parents can and want to be approached.