**Table 1.** Flags indicating potential fraudulent / ineligible participants

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Sub-category** | **Description and Examples** |
| Emails | Name associated with email address | Close with solid fillName associated with email address differs from first and last name on informed consent.  |
| Subject line | Close with solid fillUsing all capitalized letters in the subject.Close with solid fill “Interested”Close with solid fill “Study”Close with solid fill “Promised compensation”Close with solid fill “About the compensation”Close with solid fill “Requesting for the compensation” |
| Body of email | Legitimate Checkmark with solid fillExample: “Morning, I am a [xx y/o] women with a prolapsed bladder, as of [month and year]. Surgery improved it a little, but it is still very much "at the door" when I am standing. At [age] I had a hysterectomy after discovering cancer of the uterus, and I also had an episiotomy while giving birth to my only child, a son. Given my history, I would be interested in helping myself strengthen muscles in that area to help my bladder. If you believe I would make a good candidate for your study, please let me know. Sincerely, [first and last name]”Checkmark with solid fillExample: [Last paragraph of an email received from participant] “Also, as a side note ... I got a message after I filled out the initial survey saying that I would receive the $25 gift card, but have not received it. Please know that receipt of the card has absolutely nothing to do with my participation, but did just want to let you know that if I was understanding correctly, it sounds like it should have reached me. I'm thinking it may have just slipped through the cracks, and I'm not worried about even receiving it. That's not why I'm participating, but just wanted you to be aware in case others also experienced it.”FraudulentClose with solid fillExample: “Hi there, Greetings, I came across your Women on the Go Study Website today and I saw your online program that helps women build knowledge and skills to improve bladder and bowel health. I'm deeply interested in this study program. I will be glad if permitted to participate actively and share my opinion with you. Thank you so much for your consideration”Close with solid fillExample: “Good day, I emailed you because of the promised compensation for completing this study, After completing this study you promised to provide and we will receive a compensation but till date I haven't seen anything, receiving and email that I have been removed from the study but haven't been compensate So all this thing aren't Good I haven't received my promised compensation and you removed me from the study because of am the last or what please explain And I completed this study long ago that is last year December which is unfair Take it to be like you how will you feel about this? Thank you for your response.” |
| Identical emails received within a short time  | Close with solid fillVerbatim emails received within a short period of time from multiple email addresses in response to a study email. * + - Example: “I’ve created a previous account”
* This email was received from five different email addresses, some of which were not sent the study email
* All five emails were received by the study team on the same date between 5:10AM and 5:16AM
* All five emails were verbatim and did not have a period at the end of the sentence
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| Survey responses | Processing speed (response time) |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Real participants | Fraudulent participants |
| Average time (minutes) | 16.57 | 5.50 |
| Median time (minutes) | 12.14 | 5.60 |
| Inter-quartile range (minutes) | 7.13 – 18.03 | 4.31 – 6.61 |
| Range (minutes) | 2.82 – 281.62 | 2.77 – 63,735 |

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| Phone number | Utilizing online phone lookup can determine if the phone number is:* + - Valid (Checkmark with solid fillyes/Close with solid fillno)
		- Line type (Close with solid fillphone numbers listed as VoIP)
		- Fraud score (Checkmark with solid fill0 – not likely fraudulent 🡪 Close with solid fill100 – likely fraudulent)
		- Risky (Close with solid fillyes/Checkmark with solid fillno)
 |
| Mailing address | Close with solid fillThemes our study team observed through mailing address responses:* Wrote they lived in metropolitan locations, specifically Los Angeles, Miami, Brooklyn, and New York
* Provided two different addresses in Address line 1 and Address line 2
* Only provided the street name, not a street number

Close with solid fillStructure of mailing address provided:* + - [##]W [##]th St or [##]th [##]W St
		- Blvk [####]
		- 10th street, 11th street, 12th street, etc
		- 123 Main Street
 |
| Common response errors | Close with solid fillIndividuals who were identified to be fraudulent often shared the same spelling errors: “Navada” instead of “Nevada,” “Carlifornia” instead of “California,” “Lowa” instead of “Iowa,” “North California” instead of “North Carolina,” and commonly mistook cities in the United States as states. 73 fraudulent participants wrote the state they lived in was “United State” or “USA.” |

: Likely a real participant; : Likely a fraudulent participant.