**Medical Consent Template with Guidance – 4/3/2023**

**This template provides guidance and examples of text to be used within each section. Please customize each section in accordance with your protocol.**

**University of Vermont Consent to Participate in Research**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title of Research Project:** | This should be the same as the protocol unless the IRB approves otherwise. In some cases the titles are very complicated thus the IRB will allow simplification. No acronyms. |
|  |  |
| **Lead Investigator:** | List lead PI Name |
|  |  |
| **Affiliated Hospital Investigator:** | [as applicable]  If Central Vermont Medical Center (CVMC) is participating include local Investigator’s name here – no other affiliates are conducting research at this time |
|  |  |
| **Sites Where Research is Being Conducted:** | University of Vermont Medical Center  [list Central Vermont Medical Center as applicable] |
|  |  |
| **Faculty Sponsor:** | If you are a student, list your faculty sponsor here. Please refer to the Research Manual for the definition of a student. |
|  |  |
| **Sponsor:** | List all agencies, companies, or other Universities that are supporting this research. If internally sponsored, list the department. Do not list the sponsor here until you have obtained funding. |

For studies involving children please add here - “Throughout this document “you” refers to “you or your child”.

Introduction

You are being invited to take part in this research study because[explain how/why the patient/participant qualifies or may qualify for the study]***.*** This study is being conducted by the University of Vermont [if any of the research is being conducted at UVMMC hospital or any of its campuses include]at the UVM Medical Center.

Your participation in this research study is optional. We encourage you to ask questions and take the opportunity to discuss the study with anybody you think can help you make this decision.

Key Information to Help You Decide Whether or Not This Study Is Right for You

* All consent forms should provide a concise and focused presentation of key information that is most likely to assist in understanding the reasons why one might or might not want to participate in the research.
  + Use this section of the consent form to summarize the study using plain, non-technical language.
  + Highlight that the person has a choice to make. The consent form should be used as a decision making tool, not a sales pitch.
  + Include a brief description about why the study is being conducted and what is being asked of the participant (e.g. time commitment, procedures involved).
  + When deciding what risks or side effects to include in the summary, consider whether a potential participant would attach significance to the risk in deciding whether or not to participate. If applicable, state that “A complete list of the risks is given in the following pages.”
  + This summary should be limited to one page.
  + Consent forms are recommended to be at an 8th grade reading level to be appropriate for the general population. Microsoft Word has a readability program which can be found by:
    - Click the **File** tab, and then click **Options**.
    - Click **Proofing**.
    - Under “When correcting spelling and grammar in Word”, make sure the “Check grammar with spelling” check box is selected.
    - Select **Show readability statistics**.
    - After you enable this feature, open a file that you want to check, and [check the spelling](https://support.office.com/en-us/article/check-the-spelling-5cdeced7-d81d-47de-9096-efd0ee909227). When Word finishes checking the spelling and grammar, it displays information about the reading level of the document or just the highlighted section.



|  |
| --- |
| **To improve participant comprehension the IRB office encourages researchers to use:** |
| * Headings * **Bolded type** * Pictures * Tables * Consider using bulleted points to highlight key information. * Keep sentences short and simple. * Do not use fractions or %. Instead, state “1 out of 10 people will…” * Use lay language – see plain [language dictionary](https://www.uvm.edu/rpo/human-subjects-research#Medical_Dictionary) |

[Include the below statement at the end of the concise summary:]

The information above is only a brief summary of the study. If you are interested in learning more, it is important to read the following pages for additional detailed information about the study. If you decide to take part in the research, you will be asked to provide written consent at the end of this document.

[Examples of model summary statements are available on the IRB website and may be found [Here](https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/media/concise_examples_for_the_web_2.6.19.docx).]

Why Is This Research Study Being Conducted?

[Participants need to understand WHY this research is being conducted.]

* Include some background and specific aims.
* Do not include extensive biological, chemical or physiological information.
* Do not include animal data unless absolutely necessary.

What Is Involved In The Study?

* Briefly explain the study design.
* If this is a treatment study, discuss the study treatments and the probability for random assignment to each treatment including the use of placebo if any; explain the randomization process (if applicable).
* For treatment and non-treatment studies, describe all procedures. Indicate the time commitment involved for participants, specifying number of visits, where the visits will occur (e.g., whether procedures are done on an inpatient or outpatient basis), etc. and the approximate time duration per visit. Include a schedule. Discuss anticipated duration of participation including treatment and follow-up.
* For treatment trials, clearly state which are experimental/research related procedures and which procedures are standard care.
* For investigational new drug or device studies, indicate that this drug/device has NOT been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
* Describe procedures in lay terms e.g. blood drawing (not CBC), etc. Provide amount of blood or tissue to be taken. *If drawing over 450 cc of blood in an 8-week period provide special statements as provided below:*

*For adults weighing at least 110 lbs:*

*1. If more than 450cc will be drawn within an 8 week period then the treating investigator should perform a finger stick hematocrit prior to each drawing and the investigator should document that it is within the normal range. Add this additional procedure in lay terms to the consent.*

*2. Both protocol and Consent Form should specify that volunteers will receive supplemental iron.*

*3. Participants should be advised against donating blood either 8 weeks prior to, or 8 weeks after, participation in the research project. Add this restriction to the consent form.*

*Note: When amounts drawn are close to, but still less than, 450 cc, it may be deemed appropriate to include some of the above elements.*

* If applicable, for studies that involve the collection of biospecimens, include a statement about whether the research will or might include whole genome or exome sequencing.
* If applicable, include a statement regarding whether clinically relevant research results will be given to the participant and under what conditions.

Future Use and/or Sharing

*NIH award recipients (effective January 25, 2023) must adhere to the* [*Data Management and Sharing (DMS) Policy*](https://sharing.nih.gov/data-management-and-sharing-policy)*. NIH expects investigators to plan for the storage, management and sharing of research data. Prospective participants must understand how their data will be managed and shared during the informed consent process. See* [*NIH guidance and sample language*](https://osp.od.nih.gov/wp-content/uploads/Informed-Consent-Resource-for-Secondary-Research-with-Data-and-Biospecimens.pdf) *that may be used in the consent* *form.*

* If participant tissue or data that is collected as part of this protocol will be shared with others for different research purposes, this needs to be disclosed to the participants. The reason for sharing and how their rights will be protected also needs to be explained.
* Research collecting identifiable private information and/or identifiable biospecimens must include one of the two following statements. If future research is uncertain but contemplated, **choose the first bullet point to allow future additional research utilizing the biospecimens and information collected under this consent form. If bullet two is chosen, future research use will not be allowed.**
  + Identifiable samples and/or identifiable private information collected from you during this study may be used for future research studies or shared with other researchers for future research. The identifiable samples and/or identifiable private information may be used for future research of [*signify here whether the data/sample will be limited to the disease under study and related disorders or "many diseases or conditions*”]. If the investigator distributes your samples and/or information to other researchers or institutions, your samples and/or information will be labeled with a research code so that you cannot be re-identified to the receiving PI or institution. No additional consent will be requested for the future research use of your samples or information collected from you during this study. If you have questions about storing samples or would like to request that samples be removed from storage, please let us know. It is not always possible to remove samples from storage or to retrieve samples from which identifiers have been removed and/or that have already been sent to other investigators.

OR:

* + Samples and private information collected from you during this study will NOT be used for future research studies or shared with other researchers for future research, even if the information identifying you are removed from the sample and/or private information.

What Are The Risks and Discomforts Of The Study?

[Participants should be able to gain a realistic idea of the known and the unknown risks that they are taking and of discomforts or inconvenience, they might experience as a result of participating in the study.]

* When necessary, include not only physical risks but also potential legal, economic, privacy or psychological risks that are relevant.
* List risks in order of likelihood of occurrence from common to uncommon and provide a measure of the likelihood of occurrence (such as 1 in 10, 1 in 100) when available.
* For all participants of childbearing potential who are enrolled in a treatment trial, note potential risks to an embryo, fetus, or nursing infant. A contraception statement (if applicable) should be included for both males and females.
  + CRC Recommended Language: Because the drugs/procedures in this study can affect a fetus, pregnant participants may not participate in this study. If you are a female of child-bearing potential *[additional criteria may be included],* a urine *[or blood]* test will be done at the initial visit [or other time] to make sure that you are not pregnant. There is a period of time during which this test may not be accurate, as you may be too early in your pregnancy to test positive. If you think you might be pregnant, you should not participate in this study.
* When any communicable disease (i.e. measles, HIV, hepatitis, COVID-19) testing is conducted as part of the research procedures, individuals whose test results are associated with personal identifiers must be informed and counseled in advance that testing will be performed. The participant should be aware that positive communicable disease cases must, by law, be reported to applicable state Departments of Health.
* Example of language below:

”A (name the applicable disease) test will be performed for this research study. You should be aware that state law requires positive communicable disease cases be reported to state health agencies.”

* State that the particular treatment or procedure may involve risks that are currently unforeseeable.
* If there are no known risks, state so.
* If you are a legally-mandated reporter for reported abuse or intent to harm, include the following:
  + If the research intervention could result in the finding of a participant’s intent to harm himself or others, state in the consent that information regarding referrals for additional support will be provided and that this finding may be participant to mandatory reporting to the appropriate authorities.
  + If child or elder abuse [include as appropriate] is revealed during the course of the intervention that fall under state statutes, mandatory reporting to the appropriate authorities is required.
* If the research specifies enrollment of students or employees, include a statement making it clear that refusal to participate will not affect class standing, grades, status on an athletic team, or job standing.

[If the protocol utilizes the UVM research MRI magnet for neuroimaging studies, include the following:]

MRI Procedure

As part of this research study you will have a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan. MRI makes images using magnetic fields and radiowaves. The MRI exam will take about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ minutes. Before your scan, you will be asked to complete an MRI safety questionnaire to ensure that you are able to safely enter the MRI area.

You will be asked to lie down on a table that slides into the scanner (which looks like a tunnel). The table will slide until the part of your body that is being imaged is close to the center of the tunnel. The tunnel is open at both ends. When the MRI is taking pictures, you will hear loud tapping, buzzing and beeping noises. There is an intercom system so that we can talk to each other between scans. During a scan the noise of the scanner will be too loud for us to talk. You will be given a squeeze bulb to alert the staff if you need to and we will stop the scan and talk to you.

*Risk Section*

Because MRI uses a very strong magnet, there is a risk if you have metal in or on your body. Metal in your body could be from an accident or from having metal implanted during surgery (like when a screw is used to fix a broken bone). Metal on your body could be jewelry or a medicine patch. There is also metal in some medical devices, such as a pacemaker or an IUD. Before you go in the scanner you will be asked to remove all jewelry and other metal. You will complete a safety screening to make sure it is safe for you to have an MRI. We may need to talk to your doctor or see your medical records to determine if you can safely have an MRI scan.

There is a risk that you might be bothered by feelings of confinement (claustrophobia) and/or by the noises in the scanner. You might feel tired or nervous during or after the scan. If this happens you should tell us, and we will try to make you comfortable. You can stop the MRI study at any time by telling the MRI staff.

There is a small risk of decreased hearing right after an MRI scan. To lessen this risk, you will be asked to wear earplugs and/or earphones while in the magnet. If the MRI is too loud you should tell the MRI staff.

Overall, there are no known long-term risks associated with MRI scans.

*If no contrast is used, include:* There is currently no known risk of MRI (without a contrast agent) to pregnant participants and fetuses, however risks may be discovered in the future.

*If contrast is used, explain risks here…example follow*s: You may experience discomfort when the intravenous catheter is inserted, and/or a flushing sensation when the contrast agent is injected. You might get a bruise from the needle or experience pain and swelling if the agent escapes from your vein. MRIs that include the use of contrast do present an increased risk for pregnant participants and fetuses. Participants of childbearing age will be required to take a pregnancy test to confirm pregnancy status.

*If gadolinium-based contrast is utilized use the following risk language:* The contrast agent, you will receive is FDA-approved and used routinely for MRI exams. It contains a material called gadolinium. The injection of this contrast may cause discomfort, tingling or warmth in the lips, metallic taste in the mouth, tingling in the arm, nausea, or headache. These symptoms occur in less than 1 in 100 people and go away quickly.

There is a small risk of an allergic reaction to gadolinium. A severe allergic reaction occurs very rarely (in less than one in 300,000 people).

While the amount of gadolinium used in an MRI is small, and most of the gadolinium is voided in the urine within 24 hours, a small amount of gadolinium can stay in your body for longer. It is unknown if there are health problems related to retaining this small amount of gadolinium. The possibility of a health problem could be greater if you have bone disease (osteoporosis), have frequent MRIs with gadolinium, or are a child. It is known that people with moderate to advanced kidney failure or chronic liver disease are at an increased risk for developing nephrogenic systemic fibrosis (NSF) which is a serious progressive disease which decreases movement and possibly death. The cause of the disease is unknown, and the disease is not treatable. You may need to have your blood drawn to test your kidney function before you can participate in this study.

Deposits of gadolinium can accumulate in the brain, skin and bone. Gadolinium deposits remain in the brains of some patients who have undergone 4 or more MRI scans for a prolonged period of time after the last administration. It is unknown whether these deposits are harmful or can lead to adverse health effects.

*[If your research study involves the use of an investigational agent or an agent other than gadolinium, the risk section must be specific to the agent being studied. Please check with your sponsor or the package insert. Consult with MRI staff if you are unsure about the contrast needs for your research.]*

[Include the following, as appropriate, if there may be an incidental finding.]

Incidental Findings

There is a possibility that while reviewing your *(insert test)* we may see an abnormality that may have health implications that we did not expect to see. This is what is called an “incidental finding.”

If we see an incidental finding, a qualified person (usually a member of the research team) will communicate the information to you. If you wish, we will provide information about this incidental finding to your primary doctor or we will refer you to an appropriate doctor for further evaluation.

This study is neither designed nor intended to detect health problems. The imaging that you will have as part of this research study does not substitute for an appropriate medical examination by a qualified health care provider. If you suspect that you might be suffering from injury or illness, you should not rely on this study as a way to determine your health status. The information from this image will not be shared with you or your personal physician, unless (as mentioned above) there is an incidental finding.

An incidental finding may cause you to feel anxious. If you have further tests done, those results will then become part of your medical record, which may affect current and future health or life insurance. The costs for any care that will be needed to diagnose or treat an incidental finding would not be paid for by this research study. These costs would be your responsibility.

[If the study involves the collection, storage or analysis of genetic information, the following language is required:]

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA)

A Federal law, called the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), generally makes it illegal for health insurance companies, group health plans, and most employers to discriminate against you based on your genetic information.

GINA does not protect you against genetic discrimination by companies that sell life insurance, disability insurance, or long-term care insurance. GINA does not prohibit discrimination on the basis of an already manifest genetic disease or disorder.

What Are The Benefits of Participating In The Study?

[An unbiased statement should be included.]

* If none, so state.
* Both personal and societal benefits should be stated.
* Note: money provided as compensation is not considered a benefit and should not be listed here.

What Other Options Are There?

[For treatment studies, describe options open to participants if they do not participate.]

* Discuss appropriate treatment alternatives and their potential risks/benefit, this may include other research studies.
* Discuss that one alternative is to have no treatment or to have supportive care only if appropriate.
* Discuss if the same treatment is available outside of the research study.

Are There Any Costs?

[State all additional costs to participants as a result of participating in the research.]

If drugs are provided free of charge, state that if the drug becomes commercially available participants may have to pay for it. This typically would occur in a pharmaceutical sponsored study.

Clarify that standard testing/treatment will be billed to participants or their insurance and not all expenses may be covered by their insurance, which would leave them responsible for payment.

What Is the Compensation?

[State the level of compensation and detail the point(s) at which compensation is given, e.g., only at the end of study or after each completed visit.]

* State the mechanism for proration.
* Avoid using the word "pay".
* Compensation is only offered to cover expenses, time lost or inconveniences. Specify what the compensation is for. Depending upon the total amount of compensation received, the income may be taxable.
* Payment is not made for inducing participants to assume any risks.

If applicable, state “You will not receive payment for participation in this study.”

If applicable, include a statement that biospecimens, even if de-identified, may be used for commercial profit, and whether/if that profit will be shared.

[For studies that include reimbursement, in any form, you need to determine who is paying the participants and insert their requirements.]

[If UVM, include UVM procurement language below]

You will be required to provide your name and address each time you receive a payment. You will also be requested to provide your social security number if the amount of the payment is $100 or if the total payments from UVM are equal to or greater than $600 in a calendar year. If you are not a US Citizen or Permanent Resident Alien you will be required to complete additional paperwork including your immigration status for payment. This information will be strictly confidential and will be used for tax withholding and reporting purposes only and will allow the University to determine your US residency for federal income tax purposes.

Or

[If UVMMC, include UVMMC language]

You will be required to provide your name, social security number, and address to receive any amount of payment. This information will be disclosed one time to UVM Medical Center Accounts Payable Department for purposes of reimbursing you for participation in this study and to meet tax reporting obligations. If you are not a US Citizen or Permanent Resident Alien you will be required to complete additional paperwork for payment.

Can You Withdraw or Be Withdrawn From This Study?

You may discontinue your participation in this study at any time.

[Example for treatment studies when the researcher withdraws participant.]

Should your disease become worse, should side effects become very severe, should new scientific developments occur that indicate the treatment is not in your best interest, or should your physician feel that this treatment is no longer in your best interest, the treatment will be stopped. In addition, the researcher may discontinue your participation in this study at any time.

[Example language when not a treatment study and the researcher withdraws participant.]

The researcher may discontinue your participation in this study at any time.

[The consequences of a participant's discontinuation from the study, and procedures of the orderly termination of participation should be stated here.]

[Include this section **only** when protected health information is used (HIPAA language):]

What About Confidentiality of Your Health Information?

Your health information is being used for your participation in this research protocol. We need to know your past medical history to ensure that it is safe for you to participate and we need to collect ongoing health information once you have begun the research study to ensure your continued safety and to determine what effect the research project has had on your diagnosis.

[Note: Substance Use Disorder Treatment Program information]

42 CFR Part 2 protects the confidentiality of records relating to the identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any patient records that are maintained in connection with the performance of any “Part 2 program”. If you are conducting research relating to a Part 2 Program (such as DayOne), please note that there are additional restrictions on the use and disclosure of this information. Please see 42 CFR Part 2, Section 2.52. or contact the UVMMC HIPAA Privacy Specialist.

What health information will be used and disclosed for this study?

The health information we plan to collect for this study is listed below.

[This list should be edited and revised to be accurate and study specific.]

* Medical history and examinations
* Information that identifies you, such as your name, address, age, and sex
* Reports from hospital and clinic visits
* Laboratory and other test results
* X-ray and other images and reports
* Lists of medications you are taking
* Responses to health surveys and questionnaires
* Reports from mental health services and testing
* Reports about drug and alcohol treatment, including records relating to treatment at a substance use treatment program
* Health related video and audio recordings, and photographs
* Reports of testing for infectious diseases, including HIV
* Genetic testing results

Who is disclosing your health information for this research study?

* The University of Vermont Medical Center [insert appropriate affiliate hospital(s)]
* Other doctors’ offices and hospitals where you may receive medical care while this study is active.

Who will use your health information in this study?

Our research team will use your health information. We may also share it with those who assist with the conduct of the research or oversight of the activities for this study. The representatives from the institutions, organizations, and agencies are listed below.

[This list should be edited and revised to be accurate and study specific. The list should include, as applicable, a clinical research organization, an independent data and safety monitoring committee, a coordinating center, collaborators and their home institutions, and foreign regulatory agencies.]

* The University of Vermont and its Committees on Human Research
* Officials from agencies and organizations that provide accreditation and oversight of research
* The University of Vermont Medical Center (insert appropriate hospital(s))
* Other researchers and centers that are a part of this study, including individuals who oversee research at those sites
* The sponsor of this study **insert the name of the sponsor**, or others who fund the research, including the government
* Company(ies) that provide drugs or devices for this research project
* Federal and state agencies that oversee or review research information, such as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Department of Health and Human Services, the National Institutes of Health, and public health and safety authorities
* Your health insurer, for portions of the research and related care that are considered billable

Your health information is protected by a federal law called the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Once your health information is shared outside of the University of Vermont Medical Center, (insert appropriate hospital(s)) we cannot guarantee that these laws will continue to apply. As a result, your health information could be further disclosed for other purposes. In the absence of a Certificate of Confidentiality, it is also possible for a court or other government official to order the release of study data. The confidentiality of your health information cannot be guaranteed if you agree it may be used in this study.

How long will your health information be used for this research?

Your permission to use your health information will not end unless you withdraw your permission. During this study, you will not have access to study data. You may ask for your data once study activities are complete. You have a right to receive a copy of the information in your medical record at any time.

What if you decide not to give permission for research use of your health information?

If you decide not to allow the use and disclosure of your health information, you may not take part in this study. Your decision will have no effect on your current or future medical care.

If you choose to stop taking part in this study in the future, you may cancel permission for the use of your health information. You should let the research team know that you are cancelling your permission. A member of the research team will assist you in making your decision effective. The study will continue to use the health information already collected for the study before you cancelled your permission, and you cannot get back information that was already shared with others.

Who can answer your questions about the use and disclosure of your health information?

If you have questions or concerns about the use and disclosure of your health information, you should ask a member of the study team at [insert phone number] or the Privacy Officer at The University of Vermont Medical Center, Inc, at (802) 847-2667.

[to be inserted when the study is single-blinded]

Access to Your Medical Records in MyChart

By your participation in this blinded study some of your medical record may not be available to you through MyChart to ensure you remain blinded as to which study arm you are receiving.

Safeguarding Your Private Information

[This section should explain how the researchers will handle participants’ private information.]

To protect your confidentiality, we will... [Explain data security measures to be taken, e.g., storage, coding, encryption, limited access to study records, etc.]

The results of this study may eventually be published, and information may be exchanged between medical investigators, but patient confidentiality will be maintained.

If your record is used or disseminated for government purposes, it will be done under conditions that will protect your privacy to the fullest extent possible consistent with laws relating to public disclosure of information and the law-enforcement responsibilities of the agency.

[If no protected health information, include this statement.]

The sponsor [insert sponsor name] or their appointed designees as well as the Institutional Review Board will be granted direct access to your original research records for verification of study procedures and/or data.

[If applicable, add statement that describes how photographs, audio and/or video recordings will be kept secure and stored and for how long. If recordings will not be destroyed, state so.]

[When research activities or communication with participants utilize electronic methods such as e-mail or social media, include the following statement:]

Any communications through email and social media are not considered private or secure. Though we are taking precautions to protect your privacy, you should be aware that information sent electronically through these methods could be read by a third party.

[Insert the following language if there is a Certificate of Confidentiality for the project.]

This research is covered by a Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institutes of Health. This means that the researchers cannot release or use information, documents, or samples that may identify you in any action or suit unless you say it is okay. They also cannot provide them as evidence unless you have agreed.  This protection includes federal, state, or local civil, criminal, administrative, legislative, or other proceedings. An example would be a court subpoena.  
   
There are some important things that you need to know.  The Certificate does not stop reporting that federal, state or local laws require. Some examples are laws that require reporting of child or elder abuse, some communicable diseases, and threats to harm yourself or others.  The Certificate cannot be used to stop a sponsoring United States federal or state government agency from checking records or evaluating programs. The Certificate does not stop disclosures required by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA).  The Certificate also does not prevent your information from being used for other research if allowed by federal regulations.  
   
Researchers may release information about you when you say it is okay. For example, you may give them permission to release information to insurers, medical providers or any other persons not connected with the research.  The Certificate of Confidentiality does not stop you from willingly releasing information about your involvement in this research. It also does not prevent you from having access to your own information.

[If the protocol meets the criteria for registration, include the following language:]

Clinical Trials Registration

A description of this clinical trial will be available on *http://www.ClinicalTrials.gov*, as required by U.S. Law. This Web site will not include information that can identify you. At most, the Web site will include a summary of the results. You can search this Web site at any time.

[For research that is interventional and/or greater than minimal risk, include the following section:]

What Happens If You Are Injured?

If you are injured or become ill as a result of being in this research, The University of Vermont Health Network Affiliate hospital where you are enrolled in this research, will provide reasonable and usual medical care for that injury or illness. There will be no cost to you if the conditions listed below apply to your injury or illness. These conditions are:

1. The investigator determines that your injury or illness results from the research and not from your underlying condition or its usual treatment.
2. You let the investigator know about the injury or illness when you first notice it; and
3. You follow medical advice about proper treatment options for the injury or illness.

If the above conditions are not met, The University of Vermont Health Network affiliate hospital where you are seeking care may claim payments for your medical treatment from the study sponsor or your insurance company when these payments are allowed. If we bill your insurance for this care, you will be responsible for any associated co-payments or deductibles.

For an injury or illness that results from being in this study, The University of Vermont Health Network affiliate hospital where you are receiving care will not offer you any other payments, such as lost wages or expenses, except for your medical care. Even though you may receive medical care at no cost to you under certain conditions if you are in this study, The University of Vermont Health Network affiliate hospital and the University of Vermont do not admit to any responsibility for an injury or illness that results from being in the study.

If you agree to take part in this study and you sign this consent form, you are not giving up any of your legal rights.

[If applicable, include this section:]

Financial Conflict of Interest

You should know that [investigator] has a significant financial interest (e.g. a separate relationship with the sponsor or a related company involving ownership or stock, payment for services or other significant financial payments) that could potentially compromise or influence the investigator’s professional judgment or actions in the performance of the study (e.g. the design, conduct, oversight, evaluation or reporting of the results of the study). Please discuss with the Investigator any questions you may have about this.

Contact Information

You may contact Dr. [insert PI] the Investigator in charge of this study, at [insert PI phone number] for more information about this study. If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in a research project or for more information on how to proceed should you believe that you have been injured as a result of your participation in this study you should contact the Director of the Research Protections Office at the University of Vermont at 802-656-5040.

Statement of Consent

You have been given and have read or have had read to you a summary of this research study. Should you have any further questions about the research, you may contact the person conducting the study at the address and telephone number given below. Your participation is voluntary, and you may refuse to participate or withdraw at any time without penalty or prejudice to your present and/or future care.

You agree to participate in this study, and you understand that you will receive a copy of this form.

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Signature of Participant Date

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Name of Participant Printed

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Principal Investigator or Designee Date

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Name of Principal Investigator or Designee Printed

Name of Principal Investigator:

Address:

Telephone Number: