

***Informed Consent Form***

***to Participate in Research***

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| **Introduction** |

Name of person seeking your consent:

Place of employment & position:

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| General Information about this Study |

1. Name of Participant ("Study Subject")

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| For PI Use:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Participant Social Security Number: |  |   SSN should be written on this consent form by the research team prior to scanning into the VHA health record; if the subject does not have a VHA health record, this requirement is N/A. |

2. What is the Title of this research study?

Insert text here

3. Who can you call if you have questionsconcerns, or complaints about this research study?

Principal Investigator: Insert text here

Other research staff: Insert text here if appropriate; otherwise delete

4. Who is paying for this research study?

The sponsor of this study is Insert text here

5. In general, what do you need to know about this Research Study?

Agreeing to become involved in any research is always voluntary. By signing this form, you are not waiving any of your legal rights. If you decide not to participate in this research, you will not be penalized in any way and you will not lose any benefits to which you are entitled. If you have questions about your rights as a research subject, please call the University of Florida Institutional Review Board **(IRB) office at (352) 273-9600** or the North Florida/South Georgia Veteran’s Health System Research Service Office at (352) 548-6069.

1. In general, what is the purpose of the research, how long will you be involved? Insert text here
2. What is involved with your participation, and what are the procedures to be followed in the research? Insert text here
3. What are the likely risks or discomforts to you? Insert text here
4. What are the likely benefits to you or to others from the research? Insert text here
5. What are the appropriate alternative procedures or courses of treatment, if any, that might be helpful to you? Insert text here

***Additional and more detailed information is provided within the remainder of this Informed Consent form, please read before deciding if you wish to participate in this study***

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| What Can you Expect if you Participate in this Study? |

6. What will be done as part of your normal clinical care (even if you did not participate in this research study)?

Normal clinical care is medical or other treatment or services that you would receive even if you did not participate in this research study.

Insert text here

7. What will be done only because you are in this research study?

Insert text here

Once this research study is completed, any information that could identify you **might** be removed from any identifiable private information or identifiable biospecimens collected and that, after such removal, the information or biospecimens could be used for future research studies or distributed to another investigator for future research studies without additional informed consent from you or your legally authorized representative  
  
If you have any questions now or at any time during this Research Study, please contact one of the Research Team members listed in question 3 of this form.

8. How long will you be in this research study?

Insert text here

9. How many people are expected to take part in this research study?

Insert text here

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| What are the Risks and Benefits of this Study and  What are Your Options? |

10. What are the possible discomforts and risks from taking part in this research study?

Insert text here

Researchers will take appropriate steps to protect any information they collect about you. However there is a slight risk that information about you could be revealed inappropriately or accidentally. Depending on the nature of the information such a release could upset or embarrass you, or possibly even affect your insurability or employability.

Other possible risks to you may include: Insert text here if appropriate; otherwise, delete

This study may include risks that are unknown at this time.

Participation in more than one research study or project may further increase the risks to you. If you are already enrolled in another research study, please inform one of the research team members listed in question 3 of this consent form or the person reviewing this consent with you before enrolling in this or any other research study or project.

Throughout the study, the researchers will notify you of any new information that may become available and might affect your decision to remain in this study. This includes, but is not limited to, information that may affect your safety, well-being or medical care.

If you wish to discuss the risks or discomforts described above or any discomforts you may experience, please ask questions now or call one of the research team members listed in question 3 of this form.

11a. What are the potential benefits to you for taking part in this research study ?

Insert text here

11b. How could others possibly benefit from this study?

Insert text here

11c. How could the researchers benefit from this study?

In general, presenting research results helps the career of a scientist. Therefore, the Principal Investigator listed in question 3may benefit if the results of this study are presented at scientific meetings or in scientific journals.

<If any conflict of interest exists, include appropriate language here>

12. What other choices do you have if you do not want to be in this study?

Insert text here

13a. Can you withdraw from this study?

You are free to withdraw your consent and to stop participating in this study at any time. If you do withdraw your consent, you will not be penalized in any way and you will not lose any benefits to which you are entitled.

If you decide to withdraw your consent to participate in this study for any reason, please contact one of the research team members listed in question 3 of this form. They will tell you how to stop your participation safely.

If you have any questions regarding your rights as a research subject, please call the Institutional Review Board (IRB) office at (352) 273-9600.

13b. If you withdraw, can information about you still be used and/or collected?

If you withdraw from this study, your research information will no longer be collected. However, information that has already been collected will continue to be used to the extent that the researchers have used it in this research study.

13c. Can the Principal Investigator withdraw you from this study?

You may be withdrawn from the study without your consent for the following reasons:

* Insert text here

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| What are the Financial Issues if You Participate? |

14. If you choose to take part in this research study, will it cost you anything?

There will be no costs to you for any procedure, treatment or testing done as part of this research study. However, medical care and services provided by the VA that are not being done only for this study (e.g., normal hospital and prescription expenses which are not part of the research study) will be charged to you or your insurance. These costs may not be charged if you are a veteran and you are being treated at the North Florida/South Georgia Veterans Health System (NF/SG VHS), however some Veterans are required to pay co-payments for medical care and services provided by the VA. These co-payment requirements will continue to apply to VA-provided medical care and services that are not part of this study.”

15. Will you be paid for taking part in this study?

Insert text here

16. What if you are injured because of the study?

If you experience an injury or illness as a result of your participation in this VA approved research study, all medical treatment considered necessary by your physician (emergency as well as medical treatment beyond emergency) will be provided by the VA. There will be no cost to you, unless you fail to follow the directions of the study procedures. Care will be provided at a VA medical facility unless the VA medical facility is not capable of providing the care. If this occurs, you will be treated by a private facility or physician and the VA will pay the private facility or physician for the reasonable cost of your care. In some cases the VA may approve private care for a non-veteran.

If you do not follow study procedures, you may be treated by the VA on the basis of your veteran's eligibility. If you are not a veteran and have not followed study procedures the VA can only provide limited care at your expense.

No additional money has been set aside for pain, suffering or any money losses you may suffer during your treatment. You have not waived any legal rights by signing this form.

In the event of a research-related injury, have questions about any discomforts that you experience while participating in this study or if you experience an adverse reaction, please immediately contact the Principal Investigator listed in question 3 of this form during the day and <insert phone number> after business hours. If you seek emergency hospitalization in a private hospital because you are unable to come to the VA, have a family or friend contact your study doctor so that the VA can coordinate care with the private hospital.

17. How will your privacy and the confidentiality of your research records be protected?

Information collected about you will be stored in locked filing cabinets or in computers with security passwords. Only certain people have the legal right to review these research records, and they will protect the secrecy (confidentiality) of these records as much as the law allows. These people include the researchers for this study, certain University of Florida officials, the hospital or clinic (if any) involved in this research, and the Institutional Review Board (IRB; an IRB is a group of people who are responsible for looking after the rights and welfare of people taking part in research). Certain federal agencies such as the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP), the VA Office of Research Oversight (ORO), or the VA Office of the Inspector General (OIG), that oversee human subject research may also have the legal right to review your records. Otherwise your research records will not be released without your permission unless required by law or a court order.

Researchers will take appropriate steps to protect any information they collect about you. However there is a slight risk that information about you could be revealed inappropriately or accidentally. Depending on the nature of the information such a release could upset or embarrass you, or possibly even affect your insurability or employability.

If the results of this research are published or presented at scientific meetings, your identity will not be disclosed.

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| **Signatures** |

As an investigator or the investigator’s representative, I have explained to the participant the purpose, the procedures, the possible benefits, and the risks of this research study; the alternatives to being in the study; and how privacy will be protected:

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| Signature of Person Obtaining Consent |  | Date |

You have been informed about this study’s purpose, procedures, possible benefits, and risks; the alternatives to being in the study; and how your privacy will be protected. You have received a copy of this Form. You have been given the opportunity to ask questions before you sign, and you have been told that you can ask other questions at any time.

You voluntarily agree to participate in this study. By signing this form, you are not waiving any of your legal rights.

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| Signature of Person Consenting |  | Date |