LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF
THE PREMIER

LPREC GENERIC INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM

Introduction of the enumerator

Identify yourself and the institution you are representing.

Brief introduction and background of the study

Describe the problem that this research project is trying to solve and its intended purpose.

What will the study involve?

Will the participants be requested to provide a blood sample or provide any medical or private and personal information? In the informed consent document, it is important to not deviate too far from the topic of the study with examples to explain certain concepts. But on the other hand, you should seek to make sure all the necessary information is gathered.

Your voluntary participation and right to withdrawal

Request the potential respondent for permission to participate in the study and also indicate the estimated time of the interview.

Explain to the respondent that **participation is voluntary** and not being forced to take part in this study. The choice of whether to participate or not, is the respondent's decision alone. If they choose not to take part, they will not be affected in any way whatsoever. If they agree to participate, they may stop participating in the research at any time and there won't be any penalties or prejudice.

Confidentiality and Anonymity

Explain how confidentiality and anonymity will be upheld during and after the study, thus explain what will happen to the data collected.

Should the enumerator need to tape-record the interview, they should seek permission from the researcher first.

Risks/discomforts

The enumerator must explain any risks and harm that maybe associated with participation in the study should there be any, these risks should be explained and discussed in the informed consent document. Inserting the section on potential risks may prevent the misunderstandings about the project. Some of the risks that may need to be mentioned include the risk to individual such as breach of confidentiality and other physical risks such as risks associated with drawing of blood or non-physical risks such as loss of privacy. There may be other unknown risks to participation that an investigator might want to share with participants. For example, research results could have the potential under certain circumstances be misconstrued and used to discriminate and/or stigmatize a population.

Potential benefits associated with the study

Are there any immediate or indirect benefits from participating in the study? The consent form must clearly explain what the benefits will be. The researchers should be careful with emphasising more on immediate benefits such as nutritional supplements, food or compensation because this may lead to false inducement. However, the points that the researcher may need to mention on the informed consent are: benefits of the study to the society and likely lack of immediate benefit to participants.

How participants will be protected?

It should be emphasised in the consent form that the identity of the participants will be protected at all times, and that data will be kept secured in locked cabinets in a locked room or in password protected databases.

Who to contact if you have been harmed or have any concerns

This research has been approved by the Limpopo Provincial Research Ethics Committee (LPREC). If there are any complaints about ethical aspects of the research or any feeling that the respondent has been harmed in any way by participating in this study the LPREC secretariat must be contacted on mokobij@premier.limpopo.gov.za or 015 287 6564 or chairperson on thembinkosi.mabila@ul.ac.za or 015 268 2401.

CONSENT: (a consent should be documented with a signature on a separate sheet).

I hereby agree to participate in research on..... I understand that I am participating freely and without being forced in any way to do so. I also understand that I can stop participating at any point should I not want to continue and that this decision will not in any way affect me negatively. I understand that this is a research project whose purpose is not necessarily to benefit me personally in the immediate or short term. I understand that my participation will remain confidential.

……..

Signature of participant **Date**:……..

CONSENT FOR TAPE RECORDING*<If applicable.>*

I hereby agree to the tape-recording of my participation in the study. *<If applicable.>*

……..

Signature of participant **Date**:……..

I understand that the information that I provide will be stored electronically and will be used for research purposes now or at a later stage.

……..

Signature of participant **Date**:……..