
SEPSIS EDUCATIONAL EFFORT - INFORMED CONSENT FORM CONSUMER FOCUS GROUPS

On behalf of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), ICF is conducting focus groups with adults from the community to gather feedback on educational materials developed to help raise awareness about sepsis. These materials were developed in partnership with the CDC, and we hope to use what we learn from these focus groups to improve these materials and/or develop new ones. We expect each focus group to take about 60/75 minutes.

We want to learn from you, so we encourage you to speak openly and honestly. There are no right or wrong answers. If you agree to participate in the discussion, here are some points to know:

- **Rights Regarding Participation:** Your participation in this discussion is completely voluntary. You may choose to leave the focus group and/or not answer a question at any time for any reason. Refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits.
- **Privacy:** We will take every precaution to protect your identity and ensure your privacy. We will keep your name and answers to these questions private. Your name and contact information will be kept separate from any focus group responses. We will never use your name in any reports.
- **Benefits:** Your participation in the focus group will not result in any direct benefits to you. However, your input will help us to develop and improve educational materials about sepsis for people like you.
- **Risks:** There is no known risk to you for your participation in the focus group. Although we have made every effort to remove any risk to you from participating in this focus group, you may choose not to answer any questions that make you feel uncomfortable in any way.
- **Incentive:** In appreciation of your time and participation, the recruiter will give you \$XX as a token of appreciation for participating in today's focus group.
- **Recording:** This discussion will be recorded. Again, no quotes or comments you make will be linked with your name in any way. We will take notes throughout the discussion today to help us keep track of the responses from all of the participants. We will keep all information, notes, and recordings locked in a secure computer file until the end of the project, when the notes and recordings will then be destroyed. Only study staff will be able to access the information.
- **Observers:** Individuals from CDC will be observing this discussion silently. They will not participate in the discussion. All observers have completed human subjects research training related to participant privacy and confidentiality.
- **Questions:** We will answer any questions you have about this discussion before you take part.
- **Contact Information:** If you have any questions about this discussion or the campaign, please contact the research director, Kristen Cincotta, PhD, at 404-320-4433. If you have questions about your rights as a participant in this focus group, please contact the chair of ICF's Institutional Review Board (IRB), Carole Harris, at (404) 321-3211.

Do you consent to participate in the focus group? Yes No

Do you agree to be recorded during this discussion? Yes No

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

