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Masculine pronouns are used generically in this document.

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This document is the result of work begun several years ago on achieving consent forms that are consistent and that meet the ethical and legal requirements of research in Québec. Over the years, many experts in research ethics have generously helped write and improve its contents, while the document's end-users—the participants—have remained the focus of all discussions.

We would like to thank Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé (FRQS), which, in collaboration with its research centres, put together a working group in 2005 on consent form and information harmonization that has supported the initiative over the years.

In 2015 at the request of Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS), FRQS presided over the work of another working group made up of experts on research law and ethics. This working group was tasked with determining the wording of legal clauses in consent forms for clinical research involving legally competent adults in Québec. Its work led to FRQS's first versions of standard legal clauses for information and consent forms in clinical trials, which were published in 2016.

We would also like to thank CATALIS Québec, which has coordinated the creation of a revised set of legal clauses since 2018 with the help of a new working group made up of experts from FRQS and MSSS. Representatives of pharmaceutical companies were also involved. The legal clauses were revised in order to accelerate the work of the research ethics committees (CER) reviewing information and consent forms, while ensuring legal compliance. All in all, few changes were made, and the new document builds on the version published in 2016. The details are laid out in the summary of changes.

In closing, we would like to thank the research ethics committees of Réseau québécois de la santé et des services sociaux (RSSS) for making sure since 2016 that the clauses are used as-is for the vast majority of clinical trials conducted through Québec's health and social services system. Thanks to their conviction and watchful oversight, the clauses already enjoyed widespread consensus in Québec, which we hope will be strengthened further with this revised version.

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to harmonize the legal clauses used in the Information and Consent forms required for clinical trials, such as to obtain consensus among the various players and reduce the number of discussions about them. Over the past 10 years, the *Fonds de recherche du Québec* (FRQ) and the *Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux* (MSSS) have strived to periodically develop and update the standard legal clauses presented in this document. The aim is to make the process of drafting and approving the legal clauses for Information and Consent forms more efficient.

This document is intended primarily for researchers drafting ICFs and for the Research Ethics Boards (REBs) that review them. It presents the standard clauses used in ICFs for clinical trials conducted in Quebec. They are compliant with the Quebec laws, rules and regulations listed in the Appendix and are also consistent with the Canadian and international laws, rules and regulations that are generally applicable to clinical trials. They are written in plain language to facilitate readability and participant understanding. A number of tables, including explanatory notes and legal references, are presented in the Appendix to assist in drafting the clauses and support further reflection when developing Information and Consent forms. It is strongly recommended they be **used as is** to ensure consistency with the decisions of the REBs in the health and social services network.

This document is the fruit of many hours of committee work on the part of legal experts and lawyers in research ethics, as well as representatives from pharmaceutical companies.

The committee wishes to stress that informed consent is a process, dependent not only on the actual wording of the ICF but on the continued exchange between the research team and participants. The use of tools adapted to participants, as well as the quality and continuous nature of the exchange of information, are essential if we are to truly speak of "informed" consent.

STANDARD LEGAL CLAUSES

<u>NOTE</u>

The areas italicized and highlighted in grey are to guide the research team in the drafting of an appropriate informed consent form. Please remove them from the final informed consent form sent in to the Research Ethics Board.

A. COMPENSATION

Compensation in the form of an amount proportional to research participation

You will receive [*indicate compensation offered*]: an amount of \$X per study visit, for a total of X visits, for a total amount of \$X] for costs and inconveniences incurred during this research study. If you withdraw from the study, or are withdrawn before it is completed, you will receive compensation proportional to the number of visits you have completed.

and/or

Compensation in the form of reimbursement or coupons covering expenses

You will be reimbursed for the costs of [*choose*: travel, meals, parking...] related to your participation in this research study. You will be [*choose*: reimbursed upon presentation of receipts *OR* paid by a coupon which will be given to you at *specify a time*].

OR

No compensation

You will not receive financial compensation for participating in this research study.

AND

Medications offered

[*Optional*: The research drug X will be offered to you free of charge for the duration of this research study.]

B. SHOULD YOU SUFFER ANY HARM

Damages/medical care

Should you suffer harm of any kind following administration of the study drug or any other procedure related to this research study, you will receive appropriate care and services as required by your state of health.

AND

Non-waiver of rights

By agreeing to participate in this research study, you are not waiving any of your legal rights nor discharging the study doctor, the sponsor, or the institution of their civil and professional responsibilities.

C. CONFIDENTIALITY

Collection – Who? Reason for which personal information is requested

During your participation in this study, the doctor in charge of the study and the research team will collect and record information about you in a study file. They will collect only the information needed to meet the scientific goals of the study.

AND

Collection – What?

The study file may include information from your medical charts [choose: including your name, sex, date of birth, ethnicity], past and present state of health, lifestyle, and the results of all tests, exams, and procedures that you will undergo during this research study.

AND

Storage of data/samples – Protection

All data and study samples collected during this research study (including personal information and samples) will remain strictly confidential to the extent provided by law. You will be identified by a code number only. The key to the code linking your name to your study file will be kept by the doctor in charge of this research study.

and

To ensure your safety, a document indicating your participation in this study [*specify the type of information (see Section "Collection – What"), e.g., a copy of the consent form or a data information sheet*] is included in your medical chart. The results of certain tests conducted as part of the research may be included as well, depending on the situation. As a result, any person or company to whom you give access to your medical chart will have access to this information.

AND

The doctor in charge of this research study or a member of the research team will forward your coded data to the sponsor or its representatives.

and

The sponsor and any international partners will nonetheless respect confidentiality rules equivalent to those in effect in Quebec and Canada, regardless of the country to which your data may be transferred.

AND

Storage of data/samples – Duration

Data will be stored for at least 25 years following the end of the study by the doctor in charge of this research study [where applicable, choose: and the study sponsor and/or funding agency.] [Optional: (specify a different duration for study samples)]

AND

Dissemination of overall results

The data may be published or shared at scientific meetings; however, it will not be possible to identify you.

AND

Right of access for monitoring and safety, including "Measure 9"

For monitoring, control, safety, security, and regulatory approval of a study drug, your study file as well as your medical charts may be examined by a person mandated by Canadian or international regulatory authorities, such as Health Canada, as well as by authorized representatives of the study sponsor, the institution, or the Research Ethics Board. All these individuals and organizations will have access to your personal data, but they adhere to confidentiality agreements.

AND

Right of access by the participant (Access to Information Act)

You have the right to consult your study file in order to verify the information gathered, and to have it corrected if necessary.

[*Where applicable*: However, to protect the scientific integrity of this study, you may have to withdraw from the study if you access certain information before the study ends.]

D. VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AND THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

Voluntary participation and the right to withdraw

Your participation in this research study is voluntary. Therefore, you may refuse to participate. You may also withdraw at any time, without giving any reasons, by informing the doctor in charge of this research study or a member of the research team.

[*Where applicable*:] Your doctor is one of the researchers in this study. As such, your doctor's interest lies both in your well-being and in the successful pursuit of this study. Therefore, before you sign up for the study or at any time thereafter, you may wish to consult with another doctor

who is not part of this study. You are by no means obligated to participate in whatever research study is offered to you.

AND

Consequences for care

Your decision not to participate in the study, or to withdraw from it, will have no impact on the quality of care and services to which you are otherwise entitled, or on your relationship with the clinical or research teams.

AND

Withdrawal of the participant from the study by the investigator, the Research Ethics Board, the funding agency or the sponsor

The doctor in charge of this research study, the Research Ethics Board, the funding agency, or the sponsor may put an end to your participation without your consent. This may happen if new findings or information indicate that participation in this research study is no longer in your best interests, if you do not follow study instructions, or if there are administrative reasons to terminate the study.

AND

Withdrawal from the study

However, before you withdraw from the study, we suggest [to be adapted based on the study protocol:] that you take part in a final evaluation, for safety reasons.

AND

Modulating your withdrawal from the study

[*If scientifically warranted*] You have the right to modulate your withdrawal from the study at any time, by [*to be adapted based on the study protocol*:

- Stopping the study drug,
- Stopping the follow-up visits included in the study,
- Stopping telephone follow-up,
- Allowing only medical chart information to be transmitted to the sponsor, or
- Withdrawing from the study completely.

AND

Consequences of withdrawal – data storage

If you withdraw or are withdrawn from the study, no further data or biological samples will be collected. The information and *[if relevant]* blood and tissue samples, audio and video recordings, and MRI images already collected for the study will be stored, analyzed and used to ensure the integrity of the study, as described in this document.

AND

New information

Any new findings that could influence your decision to stay in this research study will be shared with you as soon as possible.

E. COMMERCIALIZATION

New commercial products may be developed as a result of the research study in which you are taking part. However, you will not be entitled to any financial gain thereof.

F. CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact information

If you have any questions or if you have a problem you think might be related to your participation in this research study, or if you would like to withdraw, you may communicate with the doctor in charge of this research study or with someone on the research team at the following number: [*insert phone number*].

and

Questions regarding participant rights or complaints

For any questions regarding your rights as a research participant in this study, or if you have comments or wish to file a complaint, you may communicate with:

The local service quality and complaints commissioner at [insert the commissioner's contact information].

AND

Approval of the Research Ethics Board

The Research Ethics Board of [*insert name of institution with which the REB is affiliated*] approved this research study and is responsible for monitoring it at all participating institutions in the health and social services network in Quebec.

or

The Research Ethics Board of [*insert name of institution with which the REB is affiliated*] approved this research and is responsible for monitoring the study.

G. SIGNATURE

Signature of participant

I have reviewed the Information and Consent Form. Both the research study and the Information and Consent Form were explained to me. My questions were answered, and I was given sufficient time to decide. After reflection, I consent to participate in this research study in accordance with the conditions stated above, including the use of all personal data and samples collected.

I authorize the research study team to access my medical chart.

[*Optional*: In addition, I authorize the researcher or research team to inform my family doctor or treating physician, in writing, that I am taking part in this research study, and to send them all relevant information.

Yes Initials

No Initials

and

Communication with the participant regarding future research

[*Optional*: I authorize the researcher in charge of this study to communicate with me to see if I am interested in participating in other research studies.]

Yes Initials

No Initials

and

Specific authorization

[Include all other authorization clauses relevant to the research study]

For instance:

- Diagnostic tests required for validating inclusion criteria (and sending of such test results to an institution in the healthcare system)
- Potential participants unable to read the consent form
- Any death or incapacity anticipated during the study, in light of the condition being studied

Name of participant

Signature

Date

AND

Signature of the person obtaining consent

I have explained the research study and the terms of this Information and Consent Form to the research participant, and I answered all questions asked.

Name of the person obtaining consent

Signature

Date

AND

Commitment of the Principal Investigator

[*Optional*: I certify that this Information and Consent Form was explained to the research participant, and that the participant's questions were answered.

I undertake, together with the research team, to respect what was agreed upon in the Information and Consent Form, and to give a signed and dated copy of this form to the research participant.]

Name of the Principal Investigator

Signature

Date

H. CONSENT OF THIRD PARTY LEGALLY AUTHORIZED TO CONSENT IN LIEU OF PARTICIPANT WHO IS INCAPACITATED

As the legal representative of the participant (guardian, trustee, mandatary; or in cases of sudden incapacity, spouse, close relative, or person close to the participant), I have reviewed the Information and Consent Form. The research study and the Information and Consent Form were explained to me. My questions were answered, and I was given sufficient time to decide.

I also realize that in the event that the person I represent becomes able to give consent for themselves while this research study is underway, that person will be invited to sign an Information and Consent Form.

After reflection, I consent that the person I represent may participate in this research study in accordance with the conditions stated above, including their personal data and samples. I will receive a copy of this consent form, signed and dated.

I authorize the research team to access the medical chart of the person I represent. [**Optional**: I also authorize the researcher or their team to inform the person's family doctor or treating physician that that the person I represent is taking part in this research study and to send them all relevant information.]

Name of the Principal Investigator

Name of legal representative:

	(guardian, trustee, mandatary, spouse,
close relative or person close to the participant)	specify below:
□ Trustee	
Mandatary	
□ Spouse	
□ Close relative	
Person close to the participant	
Signature of legal representative	Date

SIGNATURE OF PERSON OBTAINING CONSENT

I have explained the research study and the terms of this Information and Consent Form to the legal representative, and I answered all questions asked.

Name of the person obtaining consent	Signature	Date

[Optional] COMMITMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

I certify that this Information and Consent Form was explained to the legal representative, that their questions were answered, and that it was clearly indicated that they can withdraw the participant they represent from the study at any time.

I undertake, together with the research team, to respect what was agreed upon in the Information and Consent Form, and to give a signed and dated copy of this form to the legal representative.

Signature

Date

YES 🗆 NO 🗆

A witness' signature is required in the following cases:

- □ Reading disability or inability to read The witness (impartial) attests to the fact that they read the Information and Consent Form, that the research study was precisely explained to the participant, and that the participant seems to have understood it.
- ☐ Foreign language (participant does not understand the language in which the Information and Consent Form was written) The signatory attests to acting as interpreter for the participant throughout the consent process.

Nome of with one	Cignoture	Data
Name of witness	Signature	Date

Note:

Please add to the participant's study file the details of any other assistance given during the consent process.

SIGNATURE OF PARTICIPANT HAVING REGAINED DECISION-MAKING CAPACITY

I have examined the Information and Consent Form and I understand that my legally authorized representative has accepted, on my behalf, that I participate in this research study. I attest that the research study and this Information and Consent Form were explained to me, that my questions were answered to my satisfaction, and that I was given enough time to decide.

After reflection, I consent to continue participating in this research study in accordance with the conditions stated above, including the use of my personal data and my samples. I will receive a copy of this Information and Consent Form, signed and dated.

I authorize the research team to access my medical chart for the purposes of this research study. [**Optional**: I also authorize the researcher or their team to inform my family doctor or treating physician that I am taking part in this research study, and to send them all relevant information.]

Please check the appropriate box to indicate your decision:

I wish to remain in this research study.

I wish to withdraw from this research study.

Name of participant	Signature	Date
* Name of witness/relationship with participant	Signature	Date

*The signature of a witness is required: 1) in addition to the participant's, if the Information and Consent Form is read to the participant; or 2) instead of the participant's, if the participant is legally capable of consent but is unable to read or write (e.g., the witness signs beside the participant's thumbprint).

SIGNATURE OF THE PERSON OBTAINING CONSENT

I have explained the research study and the terms of this Information and Consent Form to the research participant, and I answered all questions asked.

Name of the person obtaining consent

Signature

Date

[Optional] COMMITMENT OF THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

I certify that this Information and Consent Form was explained to the research participant, and that the participant's questions were answered.

I undertake, together with the research team, to respect what was agreed upon in the Information and Consent Form, and to give a signed and dated copy of this form to the research participant.

Name of the Principal Investigator

Signature

Date

ADDENDUM FOR USE IF THE GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION (GDPR) APPLIES

Additional Information on Privacy and Data Confidentiality Following the Adoption of the *General Data Protection Regulation* (GDPR) in the European Union

Research Study: Insert name of study

Sponsor: Insert name of sponsor and address of sponsor's head office in Europe

Dear Sir/Madam,

The international sponsor of this research study, *[insert name of sponsor]*, has a head office in Europe. As such, the sponsor must comply with the *European Union General Data Protection Regulation* (GDPR) with respect to personal data collected as part of a research study. The GDPR gives study participants additional rights that are not specified in Canadian and Quebec legislation and that therefore do not appear in the Information and Consent Form that you signed for this research study. For more information, see below.

As per the GDPR, you have the following rights to data privacy, in addition to those specified in the Information and Consent Form you signed:

- You have the *right to restrain* the processing and use of personal data if you requested corrections thereof. For example, you may ask that your data not be processed until your request has been reviewed.
- You have the *right to request a transfer of* your study data to yourself or to anyone else in any commonly used, machine-readable and accessible format.
- You have the *right to file a complaint* with a European data protection authority, such as [insert the name and contact information of a competent European authority designated by the study sponsor].
- You have the *right to request the deletion* of your study data. These will be deleted if no longer needed or if there is no other legal requirement for their use.

If you have any questions, please contact the doctor in charge of this research study.

EXPLANATORY TABLES

The legal clauses are the result of a legal consensus. The purpose of the following explanatory tables is to make it easier to draft Information and Consent forms.

It is up to the research personnel to clearly explain the Information and Consent Form and ensure that the participants understand it. The committee wishes to stress that tools adapted to participants' needs and the quality and continuity of information sharing between participants and the research team are essential to truly "informed" consent.

Description	Explanatory Notes	
Information and Consent Form	May also be called "Informed Consent Form" or "Research	
	Study Information and Consent Form"	

A. COMPENSATION

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References
Compensation in	You will receive [indicate compensation offered]: an	Compensation must not be	A person's participation in research may
the form of an	amount of \$X per study visit, for a total of X visits, for a	construed as financial	not give rise to financial reward – CCQ 25(2).
amount	total amount of \$X] for costs and inconveniences incurred	payment, except as indemnity	
proportional to	during this research study. If you withdraw from the study,	for losses and inconveniences;	Informed consent form should include explanations of the "anticipated
participation	or are withdrawn before it is completed, you will receive	should not unduly influence	prorated payment" and anticipated
	compensation proportional to the number of visits you	the decision to participate in	expenses to the participant – ICH GCP
	have completed.	the study; and should be	4.8.10 (k, l).
Compensation in	and/or	proportional to expenses	"() information regarding payment (),
the form of	You will be reimbursed for the costs of [choose: travel,	incurred.	including the methods, amounts, and schedule of payment (), is set forth in
reimbursement or	meals, parking,] related to your participation in this		the written informed consent form" -
coupons covering	research study. You will be [choose: reimbursed upon	The protocol may stipulate	ICH GCP 3.1.9.

expenses OR No compensation	<pre>presentation of receipts OR paid by a coupon which will be given to you at specify a time].</pre> You will not receive financial compensation for participating in this research study.	that some visits not be compensated. Although compensation in the form of a lump sum may be a suitable option for some types of research, it is highly recommended that the amount offered be proportional to the	Inform participant about reimbursement for participation- related expenses – TCPS 2, art. 3.2(j); No reprisal for participant withdrawal nor withholding of payments due prior to the point of withdrawal. If the research project used a lump-sum incentive for participation, the participant is entitled to the entire amount. If a payment schedule is used, participants shall be paid in proportion to their participation – TCPS 2, art. 3.1 (b), Application.
		individual's participation.	Absence of undue (or excessive) reward AND compensation proportional to actual participation – Standards du FRSQ sur l'éthique de la recherche en santé humaine et l'intégrité scientifique, s. 14.
AND			
Medications	[Optional: The research drug X will be offered to you for	Only if applicable.	
offered	free for the duration of this research study].		

B. SHOULD YOU SUFFER ANY HARM

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References
Damages/medical	Should you suffer harm of any kind following	As per article 1474 of	A person may not exclude or limit his liability for bodily or moral
care	administration of the study drug and/or any	the Civil Code of	injury caused to another – CCQ 1474.
	procedure related to this research study, you	Québec, a participant	Informed consent includes information about compensation for
	will receive appropriate care and services as	has the right to expect	injury – TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (j).
	required by your state of health.	compensation for injury	If required by applicable regulatory requirement(s), the sponsor
		of any kind. The	should provide insurance or should indemnify (legal and
		research contract or	financial coverage) the investigator/institution against claims arising from the trial, except for claims that arise from
		informed consent form	malpractice and/or negligence – ICH GCP 5.8.1.
		should not in any way	Appropriate compensation and treatment for subjects who are
		limit the research	harmed as a result of participating in research must be ensured
		team's responsibilities	– Helsinki, 15.
		in case of bodily or	The protocol should include information regarding provisions for
		moral harm.	treating and/or compensating subjects who are harmed as a
			consequence of participation in the research study – Helsinki, 22.
		To avoid participant	22.
		confusion, the clause on	By consenting, participants have not waived any rights to legal
		commercialization	recourse in the event of research-related harm – TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (k).
		should not follow	
		directly after the one on	ICH GCP, 1.5.3
		the non-waiver of	
	Non-waiver of rights	rights.	
		The term "sponsor"	
	By agreeing to participate in this research	refers to any person,	
	study, you are not waiving any of your legal	business, institution, or	
		organization	
	rights nor discharging the study doctor, the	responsible for	
	sponsor, or the institution of their civil and	implementing,	
	professional responsibilities.	managing, or funding a	
L		clinical trial.	

C. CONFIDENTIALITY

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References	
Collection – Who? Reason for which personal information is requested	During your participation in this study, the doctor in charge of the study and the research team will collect and record information about you in a study file. They will collect only the information needed to meet the scientific goals of the study.	It is legally required to state who will collect data of any kind and for which purposes it will be collected. Only data necessary to stated research goals may legally be collected.	Serious and legitimate reason to gather information, and only information which is relevant to the stated objective – CCQ 37; Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 2, 5, 8, 14, 83; Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, 54, 56, 64, 65, 65.1; Regulation respecting records, places of practice and the cessation of practice by a physician, 4, 5, 6, 7; TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (i). Definition of "qualified investigator" – Food and Drug Regulations, C.05.001.	
AND				
Collection – What?	The study file may include information from your medical chart [<i>choose</i> : including your name, sex, date of birth, ethnicity], past and present state of health, lifestyle, and the results of all tests, exams, and procedures that you will undergo during this research study.	According to the TCPS 2, all data collected must be listed. The information listed must correspond to the specifics of the particular research study.	May gather only information which is relevant to the stated objective – CCQ 37; TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (i); <i>Regulation respecting</i> <i>records, places of practice and the cessation</i> <i>of practice by a physician</i> , 5, 6, 7. Personal information – Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 2; Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, 54, 56.	
		Adapt according to the specifics of the particular research study.	Guide d'élaboration des cadres de gestion des banques de données et de matériel biologique constituées à des fins de recherche, Unité de l'Éthique, MSSS, Oct. 2012.	
		This section is only for	Governance Framework for Data Banks and Biobanks used for Health Research, Advisory Group Final Report, FRSQ, 2006.	

samples used in	The use of samples taken as part of a
baseline analyses, e.g.,	person's health care – CCQ 22.
urine analysis, blood	
work, diagnostic genetic	TCPS 2, art. 12.1.
testing.	
Results of medical tests	
to validate study	
inclusion criteria (such	
as blood tests and	
diagnostic genetic	
testing) generally have	
to be added to the	
participant's medical	
chart. Therefore, any	
individual or company	
with access to medical	
chart will be able to	
access the participant's	
test results.	
Note: A more detailed	
form for databanks and	
biobanks is required for	
samples stored in	
biobanks for future use	
in other research	
projects (i.e., stored for	
purposes other than the	
study for which the	
participant was	
recruited).	

		A separate document is generally required, as the responsibilities of the investigator, institution, and Research Ethics Board will likely be different from those of the current research study.	
AND		current research study.	
Storage of data/samples – Protection	All data and study samples collected during this research study (including personal information and samples) will remain strictly confidential to the extent provided by law. You will be identified by a code number only. The key to the code linking your name to your study file will be kept by the doctor in charge of this research study.	As a rule, information collected as part of a research study must be protected and confidentiality ensured, but the means to do so may vary from one study to another.	 ICH GCP 2.11, 4.8.10 (o); Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 8 (3) and 10; Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, 63.1, 63.2; Helsinki, 9 and 24; TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (i), 5.1, 5.2, 5.4; Code of Ethics of Physicians, 20 (1), 20 (3). Parent c. R., 2014, QCCS 132 (CanLII) (Judgement of the Honourable Sophie Bourgue, Magnotta case).
		to the extent provided by law": examples could be specified if within the context of the research study, e.g., reportable diseases, compulsory treatment orders, youth protection, College of Physicians, <i>Highway</i> <i>Safety Code</i> , elder abuse.	Examples of legal requirements for disclosure of personal information: Reportable diseases – Public Health Act, 79 to 82. Child safety and development – Youth Protection Act, 39; Code of Ethics of Physicians, r. 17. Breaching patient confidentiality in order to prevent an act of violence, including a suicide – Code of Ethics of Physicians, s. 20 (5) and 21.

			Highway Safety Code, s. 603.
	To ensure your safety, a document	Clinical trials, by their	
	indicating your participation in this study,	very nature as research,	
	specify the type of information (see Section	may entail certain	
	"Collection – What"), e.q., a copy of the	health risks. It is	
	consent form or a data information sheet] is	therefore necessary to	
	included in your medical chart. The results	add this information to	
	of tests conducted as part of the research	the participant's	
	may be included as well, depending on the	medical chart.	
	situation. As a result, any person or		
	company to whom you give access to your	Further, in a changing	
	medical chart will have access to this	healthcare system, it is	
	information.	justified that in some	
		cases, tests conducted	
		as part of a research study appear in the	
		participant's medical	
		chart.	
AND			1
	The doctor in charge of this research study	Consent is required	Consent to communicate such information
	or a member of the research team will	before communicating a	to third parties – CCQ 37; Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the
	forward your coded data to the sponsor or	participant's personal	Private Sector, 8, 12, 14; Act Respecting
	its representatives.	information to others.	Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information,
			65 (2) and (3) and 65.1; Regulation
			respecting records, places of practice and the cessation of practice by a physician, 4; TCPS
			2, art. 3.2 (i).
	and		

	The sponsor and any international partners will nonetheless respect confidentiality rules equivalent to those in effect in Quebec and Canada, regardless of the country to which your data may be transferred.	Legally, data cannot be released outside Canada, unless similar protection is provided.	Consent to communicate such information to third parties – CCQ 37. Who will be granted direct access to the subject's data – ICH GCP 4.8.10 (n); Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 8, 10, 17; Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, 65 (3) and 70.
Storage of data/samples – Duration	and Data [<i>if applicable:</i> and study samples] will be stored for at least 25 years following the end of the study by the doctor in charge of this research study [<i>where applicable</i> , (<i>choose:</i> and the study sponsor and/or funding agency]. [Optional: (specify a different duration for study samples)]	Time specified by Canada's <i>Food and</i> <i>Drug Regulations</i> . Some studies require longer storage durations, e.g., 30 years for cell therapy (FDA regulation). The REB will adapt the duration on a case-by-case basis. Although this is not the case in Canada, some international sponsors do keep the data.	 Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 8 and 12. Maintain all records for a period of 25 years Food and Drug Regulations, C.05.012 (4).
AND		1	
Dissemination of overall results	The data may be published or shared at scientific meetings; however, it will not be possible to identify you.		 CCQ 37; ICH GCP 4.8.10 (o); Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, 65(2); Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 8; TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (f), (i).

AND			
Right of access for monitoring and safety, including "Measure 9"	For monitoring, control, safety, security, and regulatory approval of a study drug, your study file as well as your medical charts may be examined by a person mandated by Canadian or international regulatory authorities, such as Health Canada, as well as by authorized representatives of the study sponsor, the institution, or the Research Ethics Board. All these individuals and organizations will have access to your personal data, but they adhere to confidentiality agreements.	In Quebec, the Minister of Health and Social Services (MSSS), the College of Physicians (<i>Collège des médecins</i>) and other professional orders may have access to study files by virtue of their administrative and legislative powers. This section includes norm 7 of the <i>Cadre de</i> <i>référence en recherche</i> .	 ICH GCP 1.21, 4.8.10 (n), 5.15.1 and 5.15.2; Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, 65 (2); Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 8; Cadre de reference en recherche, norm 7 Cadre de reference en recherche, norm 7: The MSSS requires institutions to adopt a mechanism for identifying participants who have agreed to take part in a research study that the institution has authorized to carry out. There are exceptions to this rule, namely, if participant anonymity is
AND			necessary.
Right of access by the participant (Access to Information Act)	You have the right to consult your study file in order to verify the information gathered, and to have it corrected if necessary.		Right of access to personal information and correction of errors or omissions – CCQ 38, 39, 40; Act Respecting Access to Documents Held by Public Bodies and the Protection of Personal Information, s. 65 (6), 83, 84, 89; Act Respecting the Protection of Personal Information in the Private Sector, 8, 27, 28, 37.
	and	·	·
	[Where applicable: However, to protect the scientific integrity of this study, you may have to withdraw from the study if you access certain information before the study	This could happen, for example, in a double- blinded study.	

ends.]	

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References
Voluntary participation and the right to withdraw	Your participation in this research study is voluntary. Therefore, you may refuse to participate. You may also withdraw at any time, without giving any reasons, by informing the doctor in charge of this research study or a member of the research team. [Where applicable:] Your doctor is one of the researchers in this study. As such, your doctor's interest lies both in your well-being and in the successful pursuit of this study. Therefore, before you sign up for the study or at any time thereafter, you may wish to consult with another doctor who is not part of this study. You are by no means obligated to participate in whatever research study is offered to you.	Contact information for the research team, or for a contact person on the research team, is provided at the end of the consent form (Section F below).	Withdrawal of consent and withdrawal from study – CCQ 24, para 3; No need to give reasons for withdrawal – TCPS 2, art. 3.1, Application; at any time – ICH GCP 4.8.10 (m). Consent should be free and informed – CCQ 10; Consent should be given voluntarily – TCPS 2, art. 3.1 and 3.2; ICH GCP 4.8.10 (m).
AND			
Consequences for care	Your decision not to participate in the study, or to withdraw from it, will have no impact on the quality of care and services to which you are otherwise entitled, or on your relationship with the clinical or research teams.	See explanatory note regarding compensation in the form of lump sum incentives.	Withdrawal from the trial, at any time, without penalty or loss of benefits – TCPS 2, art. 3.1, Application; ICH GCP 4.8.10 (m); without prejudice to pre-existing entitlements – TCPS 2, art. 3.2; and ICH GCP 4.8.10 (m). Payment due to the participant shall not be withheld. If the research project used a lump-sum incentive, the participant is entitled to the entire amount. If a payment schedule is used, participants shall be paid in proportion to their participation – TCPS 2, art. 3.1, Application.
AND			
Withdrawal of the participant from	The doctor in charge of this research study, the Research Ethics Board, the funding agency, or the		The information generally required for informed consent includes: - stopping rules for the clinical trial; - when researchers may remove participants from the

D. VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION AND THE RIGHT TO WITHDRAW

the study by the investigator, the Research Ethics Board, the funding agency, or the sponsor	sponsor may put an end to your participation without your consent. This may happen if new findings or information indicate that participation in this research study is no longer in your best interests, if you do not follow study instructions, or if there are administrative reasons to terminate the study.		trial. – TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (I), Application. The information provided should include explanations of foreseeable circumstances and/or reasons under which the subject's participation in the trial may be terminated – ICH GCP 4.8.10 (r).
AND Withdrawal from the study	However, before you withdraw from the study, we suggest [to be adapted based on the study protocol:] that you take part in a final evaluation, for safety reasons.		The information generally required for informed consent includes: - stopping rules for the clinical trial; - circumstances under which researchers may remove participants from the trial. - TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (I), Application.
AND Means of withdrawal from the study	 [If scientifically warranted] You have the right to modulate your withdrawal from the study by [to be adapted based on the study protocol: Stopping the study drug; Stopping the follow-up visits included in the study; Stopping telephone follow-up; Allowing only medical chart information to be transmitted to the sponsor; or Withdrawing from the study completely.] 	If scientifically warranted, participants in certain studies have the right to alter their participation at any time, namely, to choose to remain as active participants only for the collection of data related to overall survival.	
AND Consequences of withdrawal – data storage	If you withdraw or are withdrawn from the study, no further data or biological samples will be collected. The information and <i>[if relevant]</i> blood samples, tissue samples, audio and video	This section should be consistent with the "Collection" sections of the confidentiality clause.	In a clinical trial setting, storage and safekeeping are subject to regulatory requirements. Where the terms of the research do not allow for withdrawal of data or human biological materials, the identity of the participants shall be protected at all times

	recordings, and MRI images already collected for the study will be stored, analyzed and used to ensure the integrity of the study, as described in this document.		during the project and after its completion – TCPS 2, art. 3.1 (c), Application.
AND			
New information	Any new findings that could influence your decision to stay in this research study will be shared with you as soon as possible.	The research team should be prompt and inform the participant in a timely manner. It is strongly recommended to keep written documentation of all such communications.	 Participants will be given, in a timely manner throughout the course of the research project, information that is relevant to their decision to continue or withdraw – TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (d). Consent is an ongoing process. Researchers have an ongoing duty to provide participants with all information relevant to their ongoing consent and to disclose any material incidental findings discovered in the course of research – TCPS 2, art. 3.3 and 3.4. The participant should be informed in a timely manner if new information becomes available that may be relevant to willingness to continue participation in the trial. The communication of this information should be documented – ICH GCP 4.8.2.

E. COMMERCIALIZATION

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References
Commercialization	New commercial products may be developed as a result of the research study in which you are taking part. However, you will not be entitled to any financial gain thereof.		

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References
Contact information	If you have any questions or if you have a problem you think might be related to your participation in this research study, or if you would like to withdraw, you may contact the doctor in charge of this research study or someone on the research team at the following number: [<i>insert phone</i> <i>number</i>].	To be adapted depending on the study site responsible for recruiting participants.	
Questions regarding participant rights or complaints Approval of the Research Ethics Board	and For any questions regarding your rights as a research participant in this study, or if you have comments or wish to file a complaint, you may contact: The local service quality and complaints commissioner at [insert the commissioner's contact information]. The Research Ethics Board of [insert name of institution with which the REB is affiliated] approved this research study and is responsible for monitoring it at all participating institutions in the health and social services network in Quebec. or The Research Ethics Board of [insert name of	To be adapted depending on the study site responsible for recruiting participants. If the grievance involves a physician, dentist or pharmacist, or even a resident, the complaints commissioner must transfer it without delay to the designated medical examiner.	The information required for informed consent includes: name(s) and contact information of the appropriate individual(s) outside the research team whom participants may contact regarding possible ethical issues in the research – TCPS 2, art. 3.2 (h), Application. Complaints to the ombudsman (service quality and complaints commissioner) – Act Respecting Health Services and Social Services, 30 to the end of the Complaints chapter. Referral of complaint to designated medical examiner – Act Respecting Health Services and Social Services, 34 (5) and 42.

F. CONTACT INFORMATION

institution with which the REB is affiliated
approved this research and is responsible for
monitoring the study.

G. SIGNATURE

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References
Signature of participant	I have reviewed the Information and Consent Form. Both the research study and the Information and Consent Form were explained to me. My questions were answered, and I was given sufficient time to decide. After reflection, I consent to participate in this research study in accordance with the conditions stated above, including the use of all personal data and samples collected. I authorize the research study team to access my medical chart. [Optional: In addition, I authorize the researcher or research team to inform my family doctor or treating physician, in writing, that I am taking part in this research study, and to send them all relevant information.]	For clinical trials, Canada's Food and Drug Regulations require written consent.	As a rule, consent to research must be given in writing. However, consent to such research may be given otherwise than in writing if justified in the circumstances in the opinion of a research ethics committee. In such a case, the committee determines the proper manner, for evidential purposes, of obtaining consent. It may be withdrawn at any time, even verbally. – CCQ 24. Evidence of consent shall be contained either in a signed consent form or in documentation by the researcher of another appropriate means of consent – TCPS 2, art. 3.12. Written informed consent is obtained from every participant in a clinical trial – <i>Food and Drug Regulations</i> , Part C, Division 5. Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Prior to a subject's participation in the trial, the written informed consent form should be signed and personally dated by the subject or by the subject's legally acceptable representative, and by the person who conducted the informed consent discussion – ICH GCP

			4.8.8.
	and		1
Communication with the participant regarding	[<i>Optional</i> : I authorize the researcher in charge of this research study to communicate with me to see if I am interested in participating in other research studies.]		
future research	and		
Specific authorization	[Include all other authorization clauses relevant to the research study]:	Add authorization clauses specific to the research study. Previous sections of the consent form should have provided the necessary information for such authorization to be given.	
	 For instance: Diagnostic tests required for validating inclusion criteria (and sending such test results to an institution in the healthcare system); 	 Blood tests; Photos or recordings (audio or video) to be done/stored; The participant's doctor to be informed of participation in the research study and to receive any useful information; Individual results to be communicated to the participant. 	

		Τ	Γ
	 For instance: Potential participants unable to read the consent form; 	- Signature of witness.	
	 For instance: Any death or incapacity anticipated during the study, in light of the condition being studied 	 In case of death, information regarding the death will be communicated to the Principal Investigator; Instructions as to continuing the study following the death or incapacity of the participant. 	
AND			
Signature of the person obtaining consent	I have explained the research study and the terms of this Information and Consent Form to the research participant, and I answered all questions asked.		Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Before informed consent may be obtained, the investigator, or a person designated by the investigator, should provide the subject ample time to inquire about details of the trial and to decide whether or not to participate in the trial. All questions about the trial should be answered to the satisfaction of the subject or the subject's legally acceptable representative – ICH GCP 4.8.7.
AND			
Commitment of	Optional: I certify that this Information and	The commitment of the	Prospective participants shall be given adequate time
the Principal	Consent Form were explained to the research	researcher, in and of itself,	and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2,

Investigator	 participant, and that the participant's questions were answered. I undertake, together with the research team, to respect what was agreed upon in the Information and Consent Form, and to give a signed and dated copy of this form to the research participant]. 	is not optional. What varies from one institution to another is where this commitment appears in written form (sometimes in the consent form, at other times in other documents).	Application. Before informed consent may be obtained, the investigator, or a person designated by the investigator, should provide the subject ample time to inquire about details of the trial and to decide whether or not to participate in the trial. All questions about the trial should be answered to the satisfaction of the subject or the subject's legally acceptable representative – ICH GCP 4.8.7.
AND			
Approval of the Research Ethics Board	The Research Ethics Board of [insert name of institution with which the REB is affiliated] approved this research study and is responsible for monitoring it at all participating institutions in the health and social services network in Quebec.	To be added when the Research Ethics Board is responsible for the oversight of the study at other institutions as well.	
	or The Research Ethics Board of [<i>insert name of</i> <i>institution with which the REB is affiliated</i>] approved this research and is responsible for monitoring the study.		

H. CONSENT OF THIRD PARTY LEGALLY AUTHORIZED TO CONSENT IN LIEU OF A PARTICIPANT WHO IS INCAPACITATED

Description	Text	Explanatory Notes	References
Description Signature of the third party legally authorized to consent in lieu of a participant who is incapacitated	Text s the legal representative of the participant uardian, trustee, mandatary; or in cases of udden incapacity, spouse, close relative, or person ose to the participant), I have reviewed the formation and Consent Form. The research study nd the Information and Consent Form were cplained to me. My questions were answered, and was given sufficient time to decide also realize that in the event that the person epresent becomes able to give consent for memselves while this research study is underway nat person will be invited to sign an Information of Consent Form. fter reflection, I consent that the person epresent may participate in this research study in cordance with the conditions stated above	For clinical trials, the <i>Food</i> and Drug Regulations require written consent for clinical trials.	References As a rule, consent to research must be given in writing. However, consent to such research may be given otherwise than in writing if justified in the circumstances in the opinion of a research ethics committee. In such a case, the committee determines the proper manner, for evidential purposes, of obtaining consent. It may be withdrawn at any time, even verbally. - CCQ 24. Evidence of consent shall be contained either in a signed consent form or in documentation by the researcher of another appropriate means of consent. J.12. Written informed consent is obtained from every participant in a clinical trial – <i>Food and Drug Regulations</i> , Part C, Division 5. Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Prior to a subject's participation in the trial, the written informed consent form should be signed and personally dated by the subject or by the subject's legally acceptable representative, and by the person who conducted the informed consent discussion – ICH GCP 4.8.8
	including their personal data and samples. I will receive a copy of this consent form, signed and dated.		
	I authorize the research team to access the		
	medical chart of the person I represent.		
	[Optional : I also authorize the researcher or		

Signature of the person obtaining consent	their team to inform the person's family doctor or treating physician that that the person I represent is taking part in this research study and to send them all relevant information. I have explained the research study and the terms of this Information and Consent Form to the research participant, and I answered all questions asked.		Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Before informed consent may be obtained, the investigator, or a person designated by the investigator, should provide the subject ample time to inquire about details of the trial and to decide whether or not to participate in the trial. All questions about the trial should be answered to the satisfaction of the subject or the subject's legally acceptable representative – ICH GCP 4.8.7.
Commitment of the Principal Investigator	[Optional: I certify that this Information and Consent Form were explained to the research participant, and that the participant's questions were answered. I undertake, together with the research team, to respect what was agreed upon in the Information and Consent Form, and to give a signed and dated copy of this form to the research participant].	The commitment of the researcher, in and of itself, is not optional. What varies from one institution to another is where this commitment appears in written form (sometimes in the consent form, at other times in other	Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Before informed consent may be obtained, the investigator, or a person designated by the investigator, should provide the subject ample time to inquire about details of the trial and to decide whether or not to participate in the trial. All questions about the trial should be answered to the satisfaction of the subject or the subject's legally acceptable representative – ICH GCP 4.8.7.
Signature of participant having regained decision-making	I have examined the Information and Consent Form and I understand that my legally authorized representative has accepted, on my behalf, that I participate in this research study. I attest that the	documents)	As a rule, consent to research must be given in writing. However, consent to such research may be given otherwise than in writing if justified in the circumstances in the opinion of a research ethics committee. In such a case, the committee determines the proper manner, for evidential purposes, of obtaining consent.

research study and this Information and Consent Form were explained to me, that my questions were answered to my satisfaction, and that I was given enough time to decide. After reflection, I consent to continue participating in this research study in accordance with the conditions stated above, including the use of my personal data and my samples. I will receive a copy of this Information and Consent Form, signed and dated. I authorize the research team to access my medical chart for the purposes of this research study. [Optional : I also authorize the researcher or their team to inform my family doctor or treating physician that I am taking part in this research study, and to	It may be withdrawn at any time, even verbally. – CCQ 24. Evidence of consent shall be contained either in a signed consent form or in documentation by the researcher of another appropriate means of consent. –TCPS 2, art. 3.12. Written informed consent is obtained from every participant in a clinical trial – <i>Food and Drug Regulations</i> , Part C, Division 5. Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Prior to a subject's participation in the trial, the written informed consent form should be signed and personally dated by the subject or by the subject's legally acceptable representative, and by the person who conducted the informed consent discussion – ICH GCP 4.8.8

Signature of the person obtaining consent	I have explained the research study and the terms of this Information and Consent Form to the research participant, and I answered all questions asked.		Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Before informed consent may be obtained, the investigator, or a person designated by the investigator, should provide the subject ample time to inquire about details of the trial and to decide whether or not to participate in the trial. All questions about the trial should be answered to the satisfaction of the subject or the subject's legally acceptable representative – ICH GCP 4.8.7.
Commitment of the Principal Investigator	[Optional: I certify that this Information and Consent Form were explained to the research participant, and that the participant's questions were answered. I undertake, together with the research team, to respect what was agreed upon in the Information and Consent Form, and to give a signed and dated copy of this form to the research participant].	The commitment of the researcher, in and of itself, is not optional. What varies from one institution to another is where this commitment appears in written form (sometimes in the consent form, at other times in other documents).	Prospective participants shall be given adequate time and opportunity to assimilate the information and pose any questions they may have – TCPS 2, art. 3.2, Application. Before informed consent may be obtained, the investigator, or a person designated by the investigator, should provide the subject ample time to inquire about details of the trial and to decide whether or not to participate in the trial. All questions about the trial should be answered to the satisfaction of the subject or the subject's legally acceptable representative – ICH GCP 4.8.7.

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The following references were consulted in the drafting of the present document:

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