

The University of the West Indies, Mona
Department of Surgery, Radiology, Anaesthesia,
and Intensive Care

**Study Title: Postgraduate Surgical Training: Improving the Quality of the
Process of Informed Consent for Surgery in Training Hospitals**

You are being invited to take part in this study, which is being done to assess the process of informed consent for patients undergoing surgical procedures at the University Hospital of the West Indies. Your participation in these efforts will greatly increase the understanding of this process both for patients and for staff.

The interview will take about 10 minutes to complete.

Your name will not be stated on this interview form. You will be identified only by a code number. The information you give **will not be shared with anyone**.

Identification:

Study no.: _____

Date of interview: _____

Name of interviewer: _____

Location of interview: _____

Diagnosis: _____

Surgical specialty: _____

Operation performed: _____

Operation priority: Scheduled Urgent Emergency

Demographic information

1. Patient's gender is 1 Male 2 Female

2. What is your birth date? 99 Not sure
 Day / Month / Year

3. What was your age on your last birthday? _____ years 99 Not sure

4. Have you had an operation before?
 1 Yes 2 No

5. Were you told that it was mandatory for you to sign a consent form?
 1 Yes 2 No

6. Did any medical personnel have a discussion with you about your operation before you signed the consent form?
 1 Yes 2 No

7. Did someone explain that you had to have an operation?
 1 Yes 2 No

8. Were you told what sort of things the treatment would involve?
 1 Yes 2 No

9. Were you told what sort of benefits the doctors hope will result?
 1 Yes 2 No

10. Were you told about any alternatives to the surgery?
 1 Yes 2 No

11. Were you told that there were possible risks of side effects / complications (things going wrong) if you did have the proposed operation?
 1 Yes 2 No

12. Were you told that the possible risks were:
 1 Minor? 2 Major? 3 Both minor and major?

30. What possible side effects and complications were discussed?
 1 Postoperative pain 5 Impairment of driving
 2 Risk of wound infection 6 Need for medication after surgery
 3 Predicted time in hospital 7 Possibility of death
 4 Predicted time off work 77 Other, specify _____

13. If there was no discussion of side effects, why do you think this was?
14. Were you told about the chance of death with the proposed operation?
 1 Yes 2 No
15. Were you told about the anticipated duration of stay in hospital after the proposed operation?
 1 Yes 2 No
16. Were you told about the anticipated recovery period after the proposed operation?
 1 Yes 2 No
17. Were you in pain at the time of your consent interview?
 1 Yes 2 No
18. Did pain restrict your ability to ask questions?
 1 Yes 2 No
19. Had you received painkilling tablets or injections prior to your consent interview?
 1 Yes 2 No
20. Did these restrict your ability to ask questions?
 1 Yes 2 No
21. Did anything else restrict your ability to ask questions?
 1 Yes 2 No
22. If yes, specify:
-
23. Did the doctor ask if you had any questions?
 1 Yes 2 No
24. Did you want any further information about your operation after you signed the consent form?
25. If so, what information would you have liked to be told?
 1 Details on operative procedure

- 2 Details of operative risk
- 3 List success rates of intended treatment
- 4 Outline expected postoperative recovery
- 5 Cost of intended treatment
- 6 Details about operating surgeon
- 7 Expected benefits of operation
- 8 Alternate treatment options
- 9 Other information.

Please specify _____

26. What was the grade of the doctor conducting the consent interview?

- 1 Medical student
- 2 Intern
- 3 Resident
- 4 Senior resident
- 5 Consultant
- 99 Not sure

27. Where were you when the consent interview took place?

- 1 Outpatient clinic
- 2 A/E/Casualty
- 99 Not sure
- 3 Ward
- 4 Operating theatre
- 77 Other, specify _____

28. Did you understand why an operation was being planned

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

29. If not, why was this?

30. Were you told who would be performing the operation?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

31. Do you know who actually performed the operation?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

Anaesthesia

32. Did you meet with an anaesthetist before the operation?
 1 Yes 2 No
33. Was the anaesthetic procedure discussed?
 1 Yes 2 No
34. Were alternatives to the proposed anaesthetic plan discussed?
 1 Yes 2 No
35. Were possible complications specific to anaesthesia discussed?
 1 Yes 2 No
36. What possible complications specific to anaesthesia were discussed?
 1 Awareness 4 Nausea and vomiting
 2 Allergic reactions to drugs 5 Pain
 3 Need for blood transfusion 6 Sore throat
 7 Other, specify _____
37. With respect to the statement "I was able to give informed consent to operation" do you:
 1 Strongly agree
 2 Agree
 3 Uncertain
 4 Disagree
 5 Strongly disagree
38. With regard to your choice in the matter which statement best describes your feelings:
 1 I made up my own mind about the procedure and strongly wanted to proceed, and know that I could change my mind at any time.
 2 I wanted to proceed, but was a little unsure.
 3 I was not sure what to do, so I just went ahead, but I am not upset.
 4 I felt a bit pressured to agree with the doctors and have the procedure.
 5 I felt very pressured to agree with the doctors and have the procedure.