

Please include your letterhead

**This would be used for instances where in-person meetings are taking place or when research instruments are dropped off/picked up. To be added as an appendix to the consent form. PLEASE DELETE ALL TEXT BOXES FROM THE FINAL VERSION*

COVID-19 Information Sheet

Research Project Title: _____

Principal Investigator and contact information: _____

Research Supervisor (if applicable) and contact information: _____

This document contains important information about in-person research during the COVID-19 public health crisis. COVID-19 (also called SARS-CoV2) is an illness caused by the coronavirus. Coronaviruses are most commonly spread from an infected person through: a) respiratory droplets when you cough or sneeze; b) close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands; or c) touching something with the virus on it, then touching your eyes, nose or mouth before washing your hands.

If you feel that you are from a group that is more vulnerable to COVID-19 effects (e.g., senior (over the age of 60 years), immuno-compromised), please discuss your participation with the research team before providing your consent. You are under no obligation to participate and can change your mind about participating in the research at any time and without consequence.

The University of Manitoba is committed to taking measures to protect the health and safety of their campuses and the wider community. We will follow University of Manitoba protocols which include [please update this section for off-campus studies to ensure the policies of that organization are being followed]:

- Please provide information on the precautions your research team are taking.
 - o Where the study will take place- if not mentioned in the original consent form or if this has changed in order to accommodate COVID-19 precautions
 - o A detailed description of what will happen the day of the visit- if not mentioned in the original consent form. Please also describe any changes made to the protocol because of COVID-19.
 - o The screening process
 - o The set-up of the location to ensure physical distancing (if required)
 - o Use of PPE and hand sanitizer (remember to include the UM's requirement for 3-ply reusable or disposable masks)
 - o The decontaminating process
- Below is a sample that will need to be tailored to your specific project.

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- *All study research teams are wearing 3-ply reusable or disposable masks. You are also required to wear a mask.*
- *We also require all of our employees to screen themselves for symptoms daily before they come into work, and we'll screen you for symptoms the day of your visit.*
- *We will provide you with a screening questionnaire. Please complete this on the morning of your visit. If you answer yes to any of the questions, please call us to reschedule your visit. You should not attend any visits if you are not feeling well or exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19, if you have been a close contact with someone with COVID-19 (or awaiting tests results), or have been told by a health official to self-isolate.*
- *We are following meticulous infection control practices, including disinfection, wearing gloves, and hand washing.*
- *We are limiting the number of visitors accompanying people for their study visits, and have rearranged and/or removed furniture in our waiting areas to enforce strict physical distancing practices.*
- *We ask that you attend the study alone. Accommodations can be made if necessary. Please let us know ahead of time if you require someone to attend with you.*
- *We're also being careful about who we ask to come for in-person study visits, and when possible are using telephone or video conferencing to reduce the number of study participants coming to our research areas at the same time.*

The University of Manitoba is closely watching the situation in Manitoba and may restrict in-person research at any time. We will continue to keep you informed as to changes that may occur to this study.

If you have questions regarding this study, measures we are taking to keep all parties safe, or have any concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. You can contact any of the above named researchers or the Human Ethics office at humanethics@umanitoba.ca