

The following information is provided as a sample informed consent form. Researchers also need to review the information related to the Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects on the University of Montevallo (HASRC).

Informed Consent

Title of Research: Parenting a Hospitalized Preterm Infant

Investigator: Jane Doe, RN, BSN

Before agreeing to participate in this research study, it is important that you read the following explanation of this study. This statement describes the purpose, procedures, benefits, risks, discomforts, and precautions of the program. Also described are the alternative procedures available to you, as well as your right to withdraw from the study at any time. No guarantees or assurances can be made as to the results of the study.

Explanation of Procedures

This research study is designed to examine the experience of parenting a hospitalized preterm infant. Jane Doe, a graduate student at the University of Montevallo, is conducting this study to learn more about how parents feel concerning the experience of having a preterm infant. Participation in the study involves completion of a short demographic data collection sheet and a series of three interviews, which will last for approximately one hour each over a period of one to three weeks. The interviews will be audiotaped by the researcher and later transcribed for the purpose of data analysis. The interviews will be conducted at a setting that is mutually agreeable to the participant and the researcher.

Risks and Discomforts

There are no risks or discomforts that are anticipated from your participation in the study. Potential risks or discomforts include possible emotional feelings of sadness when asked questions during the interview.

Benefits

The anticipated benefit of participation is the opportunity to discuss feelings, perceptions, and concerns related to the experience of parenting a hospitalized preterm infant.

Alternative Treatments

Because this study does not involve specific treatments or procedures, there are no known alternative treatments to participating in this study.

Confidentiality

The information gathered during this study will remain confidential in a locked draw during this project. Only the researcher and the University of Montevallo IRB will have access to the study data and information. There will not be any identifying names on the tapes, and participant's names will not be available to any-one. The tapes will be destroyed at the completion of the study. The results of the research will be published in the form of a graduate paper and may be published in a professional journal or presented at professional meetings. The information will help registered nurses, and others to better understand how to provide quality services for parents of preterm infants.

Withdrawal without Prejudice

Participation in this study is voluntary; refusal to participate will involve no penalty. Each participant is free to withdraw consent and discontinue participation in this project at any time without prejudice from this institution. Furthermore, a decision to participate or not to participate will not influence in any way the care you or your infant receives in the neonatal intensive care unit.

Participant's initials:

For IRB Use
Only

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New Findings

Any significant new findings that develop during the course of the study, which may affect a participant's willingness to continue in the research, will be provided to each participant by Jane Doe, RN, BSN.

Cost and/or Payment to Subject for Participation in Research

There will be no cost for participation in the research. Also, participants will not be paid to participate in this research project.

Payment for Research Related Injuries

The University of Montevallo has made no provision for monetary compensation in the event of injury resulting from the research. In the event of such injury, assistance will be provided to access health care services. The cost of health care services is the responsibility of the participant.

Questions

Any questions concerning the research project and/or in the case of injury due to the project, participants can call Ms. Cindy Doe (faculty advisor for this project) at 205-726-XXXX. Questions regarding rights as a person in this research project should be directed to [please place name of current IRB chairman here], University of Montevallo Institutional Review Board Chairman, Dr. John Burling, at 205-665-6444.

Agreement

This agreement states that you have received a copy of this informed consent. Your signature below indicates that you agree to participate in this study.

Signature of Subject

Date

Subject name (printed)

Signature of Researcher

Date