Consent Documents for ACTION for Health Research at Mid-Main in the Waiting Room

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ACTION for Health

Document Status:

☑ Published Paper   ☑ Practitioner’s Pointers
☐ Working Paper   ☑ Briefing Note
☐ Report   ☑ Research Tool
☐ Draft   ☑ Overview
☐ Presentation   ☑ Consent Documents

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Verbal Script for ACTION for Health Researcher at Mid-Main in the Waiting Room

Hi, my name is ___________; I’m a researcher on a project called ACTION for Health from Simon Fraser University where we study technology, like the Internet, in the health sector. I’m working with Mid-Main to understand how and if the waiting room can become a better place for patients to learn about their health with the introduction of an Internet terminal. I was wondering if you would be willing to participate in our study by:

Allowing me to take down written observations about what you do while you’re waiting for your appointment today.

Participation in this study is voluntary and you can remain anonymous. Are you willing to participate? I need to start by asking you some basic questions to make a record of the fact that you’ve agreed to participate:

There are participant information sheets and optional feedback forms available on the counter if you would like more information about this study.
PARTICIPANT TRACKING SHEET:
Waiting Room Ethnography Mid-Main Community Health Centre

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participant Number:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Do you agree to me taking observations about what you are doing in the waiting room today as part of a research study?

Yes  No

What is your age?:

When is your appointment today?:

Which physician/practitioner are you seeing?:

Notes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrival Time:</th>
<th>Departure Time:</th>
<th>Total Time:</th>
<th>Reading:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Magazines</td>
<td>Brochures</td>
<td>Mid-Main News</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participants at The Mid-Main Community Health Centre (Internet Project)
Completion of this form is **OPTIONAL**, and is not a requirement of participation in the project. However, if you have served as a subject in a project and would care to comment on the procedures involved, you may complete the following form and send it to the Chair, University Research Ethics Review Committee. All information received will be treated in a strictly confidential manner.

**Name of Principal Investigator:** Dr. Ellen Balka

**Title of Project:** ACTION for Health (Applied Communication Technology: Information Organizations Networks)

**Address:** School of Communication, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6

Were you asked if you were willing to participate today? ____ (Yes or No)

Were there significant deviations from the originally stated procedures? ____ (Yes or No)

I wish to comment on my involvement in the above project which took place:

________________________________________________________________________

(Date) (Place) (Time)

Comments: ________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

**Completion of this section is optional**

Your name: ___________________________________________________________________

Address: _____________________________________________________________________

Telephone: (w) _________________________ (h) __________________________

This form should be sent to the Chair, University Ethics Review Committee, c/o Vice-President, Research, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6.
INFORMATION SHEET FOR PATRONS:
Participants at the Mid-Main Community Health Centre (Internet Project)

This form describes processes to be used in studying the waiting room as a location to seek health information at the Mid-Main Community Health Center.

Title of Project: ACTION for Health (Applied Communication Technology: Information Organization Networks)

Project description: This project is focused on people’s health literacy (how we understand health information) and how different people use both human information intermediaries (like librarians, doctors, or nurses) and new technologies (i.e., the Internet) to gather health information.

Procedures to be followed by researcher(s):
An ACTION for Health researcher will approach persons in the waiting room, explain the project, and ask permission to take down observations about their activities in the waiting room. To keep a record of your informed consent, the researcher will take down information such as the date, your appointment time, your physician or medical practitioner’s name, your age, and permission to share the data to communicate research findings. Individual data will be viewed by research staff and may be shared to communicate research results, or to share research findings with partners including the Mid-Main Community Health Centre, BC Ministry of Health Services, and Public Health Agency of Canada. Anyone under 14 years of age will be excluded from this study.

Refusal to participate:
I can refuse to participate in this research project. As a parent or guardian I may revoke consent for my child to participate at any time, or that as a child I may refuse to participate in this research, and that if I (or my child) refuses to participate in this project that neither my child nor I will be adversely affected by refusing to participate in this study. There will be no repercussions in the event that I refuse to participate in this study.

Risks to research subjects:
Persons agreeing to participate in this research project may find some of the questions uncomfortable, challenging, or may enjoy talking about their use of the Internet to gather health information.

Benefits to the research community:
Information from this study will assist researchers in understanding how ordinary people gather, consume, and use health information. It will also assist researchers in examining how information technologies (like the Internet) play a role in obtaining and using health information. This study will also help the Mid-Main Community Health Care Centre to find out how their patients are using the Internet to gather health information.

Providing feedback and obtaining results:
The back of this sheet contains a subject feedback form you can use to provide feedback. In addition, you may register any complaint you might have about the project with the researcher named above or with Dr. Martin Laba, the Director of the School of Communication of Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6.

You may obtain copies of the results of this study, upon its completion, by contacting: Dr. Ellen Balka, School of Communication, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6.

ACTION for health
Applied Communication Technology: Information . Organizations . Networks
In Association with Simon Fraser University and the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute