Adult Informed Consent Template:  
ONLINE Surveys

Use this template to gain electronic informed consent for minimal-risk internet surveys using Qualtrics, Survey Monkey, Google forms, or similar survey platforms.

The text below should appear as the landing page, or first screen, of the survey program. Please feel free to put this into your own words or customize it to your needs, providing all the information a potential subject should know to make an informed choice whether or not to participate.

[Insert Title of Study]

This is a study being conducted by [student/staff/faculty] researchers from John Carroll University. In this study, I/we am/are trying to [hypothesis or purpose of your study]. You will be asked to complete the following survey which should take approximately [n] minutes. [During this survey, you may experience possible risks or discomforts, if applicable.] If at any time you [feel negative reaction or] do not want to participate anymore, you may close your browser and leave the survey.

Your name or any other identifier will not be collected in this survey, and your personal data will not be identified in the results. All responses will be kept completely confidential. [Include one of the following two statements: “Your de-identified data could be used for future research studies or distributed to another investigator for future research studies without your additional informed consent.” or “Your de-identified data will not be used or distributed for future research studies.”]

Please realize that there are risks to participating in internet-based research with regard to potential breaches of privacy or anonymity. Be aware that some employers monitor employee internet usage. Please be sure to close your internet browser once you have finished the survey to protect your privacy. In addition, you can further safeguard your privacy by deleting the webpage history from your browser after closing the survey link.

If you have any questions or concerns about this study or any of these procedures, please contact [name of the researcher(s)] at [email or phone number(s) of researcher(s)]. If you have questions or concerns about the rights and welfare of research participants, please contact the John Carroll University Institutional Review Board Administrator at irb@jcu.edu or (216) 397-1527.
Your participation is completely voluntary. You may quit the survey [or skip any question at any time] without penalty.

By continuing with this survey you confirm that you are at least 18 years of age [and other possible inclusion/exclusion criteria] and that you consent to participate. If you do not consent to participate, please exit this survey or close your browser.

For more information about informed consent requirements, contact the IRB Administrator, Carole Krus, at ckrus@jcu.edu, or refer to the JCU IRB website. The informed consent requirements for human subject research are found in the federal regulations at 45 CFR 46.116.

Revised: November 2019