

Consent Form to Participate in Research to Study Chronic Pain and Body Image

IRB#: 2009N6953

IRB Continuation/Change Application #: CON2009F7089

We are asking you to participate in a study that takes about 30 to 45 minutes to complete. The purpose of this research is to examine the differences in how individuals with chronic pain perceive their body versus how individuals without chronic pain. You are being asked to participate in this study because you are currently undergoing treatment for a chronic pain condition. The study consists of two parts: 1) you will answer 65 questions about yourself and your body and 2) you will observe while an experimenter simultaneously brushes your hand and a prosthetic hand with a paint brush for about five minutes and answer questions about your sensations and perceptions. This study will be conducted by Megan Purser, graduate student at Texas State University (mp1389@txstate.edu) under the supervision of Dr. Reiko Graham (rg30@txstate.edu, 512-245-6806, PSY LB24, Department of Psychology, Texas State University) and will take place at Restore FX.

You are being asked to participate in this study because you are an adult who has been identified as having chronic pain. In order to decide whether or not you wish to be part of this study, you need to know about its risks and benefits. This consent form gives you detailed information about the study, which a member of the research team will also discuss with you. By reading this form and talking to the researcher, you will learn about the different aspects of this research: its purpose, what will happen to you when you come to Restore FX, any risks of the procedures, and the benefits of being in the study. Once you fully understand the study, you will be asked if you wish to participate. If so, you will be asked to sign this consent form.

Description of the procedure: If you agree to participate, you will be scheduled for one session that lasts for about 30 to 45 minutes. This study consists of two parts: you will first complete some surveys asking you about yourself and your opinions about different things, including some demographic information, your current level of pain, and how you view your body. The second part will consist of you observing the experimenter simultaneously stroke your hand and a prosthetic hand with two small, clean paintbrushes. This procedure will take about ten minutes. Afterward, you will answer a questionnaire consisting of 65 questions about your sensations and perceptions during the procedure.

Risks: There are minimal risks associated with responding to any of the questions, having your hand touched with a paintbrush or observing the rubber hand being touched. If you become too bored or uncomfortable at any time, the study will be stopped. Risks associated with the surveys may include psychological discomfort in answering questions on body image. Examples of questions include: are you satisfied with the shape of your body, are you confident with your body, are you concerned with your weight, and are you discontent or ashamed of your body. If at any moment you become too psychologically distressed, the study will stop.

If you would prefer not to answer any of the questions on the questionnaire, please feel free to skip them and move on to the next questions. Also, if you find the rubber hand procedure to be upsetting or distressing, please inform the researcher immediately so that she can end the experiment. We do not expect that the questionnaires or the rubber hand illusion will be distressing. However, if for any reason you feel distressed or upset, the experiment will end.

If immediate care is needed, it is available from Dr. Krista Jordan at Restore FX.

Location: 4534 Westgate Blvd., Suite 112, Austin, TX 78745

Phone: (512) 293-3807

Email: krista_jordan@hotmail.com

Further information concerning your rights as a research subject can be obtained from the Texas State University Institutional Review Board: Please contact either Dr. Jon Lasser (512-245-3413; lasser@txstate.edu), Ms. Becky Northcut, Compliance Specialist (512-245-2102) or IRB@txstate.edu if you have further questions.

Benefits: The main benefit to you from participating in this study is that you will become familiar with some of the different techniques that are used in psychological research. You will also be helping to increase our understanding of chronic pain and how it might relate to body image perception. The results of this study will be of help in understanding the influence of body image on chronic pain.

If you are interested, the results of this study will be available to you. Please contact Megan Purser (mp1389@txstate.edu) or Dr. Reiko Graham (rg30@txstate.edu, 512-245-6806, PSY LB24, Department of Psychology, Texas State University) if you would like to be sent the results of the study after it is completed.

Compensation: You will not be compensated for participation in this study.

Right to Withdraw: At any time, you may choose not to be in the study. If you withdraw from the study, no new data about you will be collected. You may also withdraw your authorization for us to use your data that have already been collected (other than the data needed to keep track of your withdrawal), but you must do this in writing.

Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not involve any penalty or loss of benefits. If you decide to withdraw, we ask that you contact Megan Purser (mp1389@txstate.edu) or Dr. Reiko Graham (rg30@txstate.edu, 512-245-6806, PSY LB24, Department of Psychology, Texas State University). At that time, you will be asked for your permission to continue using this information about you that has already been collected prior to your withdrawal.

Confidentiality: Any records that identify you will be kept confidential as required by law. Federal Privacy Regulations provide safeguards for privacy, security and authorized access to any information that you give. Except when required by law, you will not be identified by name, social security number, or any other direct personal identifier on any study records disclosed outside of Texas State University, you will be assigned a unique code that will not identify you in any way. The key to this code will be kept in a locked file in the Health Psychophysiology Lab (PSY 314) at Texas State University. Your data will be kept in a locked file for 3 years, after which time it will be destroyed.

Questions about the study and results of this research may be directed to Megan Purser (mp1389@txstate.edu).

For questions regarding your rights as a research participant, contact the Texas State University Institutional Review Board: Dr. Jon Lasser (512-245-3413; lasser@txstate.edu) or Ms. Becky Northcut, Compliance Specialist (512-245-2102; sn10@txstate.edu).

Statement of Consent: “The purpose of this study, the procedures to be followed, risks and benefits have been explained to me. I have been allowed to ask any questions on my mind, and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction. I have been told to contact Megan Purser or Dr. Reiko Graham if I have any additional questions or concerns. I have read this consent form and agree to be in this study, with the understanding that I may withdraw at any time. I have been told that I will be given a signed copy of this consent form.”

Participants Signature

Date

Signature of Person Obtaining Consent