Supplementary Material 5: Consents

## 5.1 Routine Household Telephonic Contact

*Greetings, introduce yourself and the Organisation and state that the calls are being recorded for quality assurance purposes. Thereafter ask the respondent if it is the right time to speak, after the consent has been given also use the Identifiers to confirm if you are speaking with the right person. Explain that we got the consent to contact them from the Physical Data Collection team (fieldworker/s and/tracker/s) when they visited them the previous physical visit.*

We would like to ask you about your household members, residing in your house or elsewhere, and their relationship to the head of the household, as well as any births, deaths or migrations. In addition to these questions we would like to ask you about the impact of COVID-19 on your household or whether any member of your household has encountered someone suffering from COVID-19 or has symptoms of the disease.

The questions will enable us to identify members of your household that should come to a testing point close to your home to be tested for COVID-19. The questions will also enable us to measure the impact of the epidemic on the livelihood of the local community.

All the information collected is kept private and confidential on a secure computer, and only shared with team members linked to AHRI.. After we remove any personally identifiable information, we may share the data with other scientists for analysis.

*[Note: at this stage, ask the participant if they understood what you just said. Then ask them if they have any questions.]*

Your taking part in this study is entirely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason and without any negative consequence.

If you have any later questions about the study or wish to withdraw from the study, you can SMS for free to **37001** or call us for free on 0800 203 695.

In agreeing to take part in this study you confirm that you understand this study and have been able to consider and ask questions before taking part

Do you agree to be part of the study?

## 5.2 Intensive Household Telephonic Contact

*Greetings, introduce yourself and the Organisation and state that the calls are being recorded for quality assurance purposes. Thereafter ask the respondent if it is the right time to speak, after the consent has been given also use the Identifiers to confirm if you are speaking with the right person. Explain that we got the consent to contact them from the Physical Data Collection team (fieldworker/s and/tracker/s) when they visited them the previous physical visit.*

We would like to invite you to take part in a research study, conducted by the Africa Health Research institute, AHRI (formerly the Africa Centre) at Somkhele site; the study is about the COVID-19 epidemic and will help us to assist with the Government response to the epidemic. As you know this epidemic is developing very quickly and we would like to call you every two weeks to ask a few questions.

We would like to ask you about the impact of COVID-19 on your household or whether any member of your household has encountered someone suffering from COVID-19 or has symptoms of the disease. The questions will enable us to identify members of your household that should come to a testing point close to your home to be tested for COVID-19. The questions will also enable us to measure the impact of the epidemic on the livelihood of the local community.

All the information collected is kept private and confidential on a secure computer, and only shared with team members linked to AHRI.

After we remove any personally identifiable information, we may share the data with other scientists for analysis.

*[Note: at this stage, ask the participant if they understood what you just said. Then ask them if they have any questions.]*

Your taking part in this study is entirely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason and without any negative consequence.

If you have any later questions about the study or wish to withdraw from the study, you can SMS for free to **37001** or call us for free on 0800 203 695.

In agreeing to take part in this study you confirm that you understand this study and have been able to consider and ask questions before taking part.

Do you agree to 1/ be part of the study and 2/ being called every two weeks to ask you some questions about COVID-19 and its impact on your household?

## 5.3 Intensive Household Social Sub-survey Telephonic Contact

*Greetings, introduce yourself and the Organisation and state that the calls are being recorded for quality assurance purposes. Thereafter ask the respondent if it is the right time to speak, after the consent has been given also use the Identifiers to confirm if you are speaking with the right person. Explain that we got the consent to contact them from the Physical Data Collection team (fieldworker/s and/tracker/s) when they visited them the previous physical visit.*

We would like to invite you to take part in a research study, conducted by the Africa Health Research institute, AHRI (formerly the Africa Centre) at Somkhele site; the study is about the COVID-19 epidemic and will help us to assist with the Government response to the epidemic. As you know this epidemic is developing very quickly and we would like to call you every two weeks to ask a few questions.

We would like to ask you about the impact of COVID-19 on you personally, and how you are interacting with members of your household, family and others. The questions will enable us to measure the impact of the epidemic on the livelihood of the local community.

All the information collected is kept private and confidential on a secure computer, and only shared with team members linked to AHRI. After we remove any personally identifiable information, we may share the data with other scientists for analysis.

*[Note: at this stage, ask the participant if they understood what you just said. Then ask them if they have any questions.]*

Your taking part in this study is entirely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason and without any negative consequence.

If you have any later questions about the study or wish to withdraw from the study, you can SMS for free to **37001** or call us for free on **0800 203 695**.

In agreeing to take part in this study you confirm that you understand this study and have been able to consider and ask questions before taking part.

Do you agree to 1/ be part of the study and 2/ being called every two weeks to ask you some questions about COVID-19 and its impact on your household?

## 5.4 Parent/guardian/caregiver consent for minor

*Greetings, introduce yourself and the Organisation and state that the calls are being recorded for quality assurance purposes. Thereafter ask the parent/guardian/caregiver if it is the right time to speak, after the consent has been given also use the Identifiers to confirm if you are speaking with the right person. Explain that we got the consent to contact them from the Physical Data Collection team (fieldworker/s and/tracker/s) when they visited them the previous physical visit.*

We would like to invite your child/ward to take part in a research study, conducted by the Africa Health Research institute, AHRI (formerly the Africa Centre) at Somkhele site; the study is about the COVID-19 epidemic and will help us to assist with the Government response to the epidemic. As you know this epidemic is developing very quickly and we would like to call you every two weeks to ask a few questions.

We would like to ask them about the impact of COVID-19 on them personally, and how they are interacting with members of your household, family and others. The questions will enable us to measure the impact of the epidemic on the livelihood of the local community.

All the information collected is kept private and confidential on a secure computer, and only shared with team members linked to AHRI. After we remove any personally identifiable information, we may share the data with other scientists for analysis.

*[Note: at this stage, ask the parent/guardian/caregiver if they understood what you just said. Then ask them if they have any questions.]*

Your taking part in this study is entirely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason and without any negative consequence.

If you have any later questions about the study or wish to withdraw from the study, you can SMS for free to **37001** or call us for free on **0800 203 695**.

In agreeing to take part in this study you confirm that you understand this study and have been able to consider and ask questions before taking part.

Do you agree to your child/ward 1/ being part of the study and 2/ being called every two weeks to ask them some questions about COVID-19 and its impact on your household?

## 5.5 COVID-19 screening and testing at the clinic

*Introduce yourself and the Organisation. Explain that AHRI is supporting the health services for screening people for Coronavirus, and that we will strictly follow the guidelines. Then explain how the process will work, with the following*:

1. First, I will proceed by asking you questions to assess whether you have symptoms and risk factors for Coronavirus infection, such as exposures to someone infected or recent travel to places where Coronavirus has been detected
2. If you do meet criteria as a potential Coronavirus suspect, a nurse will do a clinical assessment for Coronavirus symptoms (cough, heart rate), take vital signs measurements, and ask questions about your medical history.
3. The nurse will then assess whether you are eligible for testing or not. If eligible, a sample will be taken for Coronavirus testing; this is not painful, but you may experience a bit of discomfort. The sample will be sent to a laboratory in Durban for testing and storage. If a point of care test becomes available during this project, we might also use such a test to help diagnose Coronavirus more quickly.
4. Will contact you by SMS or phone call to give you your results back.
5. Before you leave the clinic, you will be given a flyer with good hygiene advices to follow at home, and how-to self-isolate at home if you are suspected to be a Coronavirus case. If you are really unwell you will be referred directly to the local health services.
6. We would also like to ask permission to use the data, specimens and test results for further AHRI studies about Coronavirus

All the information collected is kept private and confidential on a secure computer at AHRI, and only shared with team members linked to AHRI. After we remove any personally identifiable information, we may share the data with other scientists for analysis.

*[Note for the CRA: at this stage, ask the participant if they understood what you just said. Then ask them if they have any questions.]*

This study has been approved by the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee (BREC) of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (REFERENCE NUMBER BE290/16). BREC contact details are on the flyer that we will give you. The Ethics Committee may look at the information from the study to check that procedures are being correctly and safely followed but they will not see your name.

Your taking part in this study is entirely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason and without any negative consequence.

If you ever have questions about this study, or in case you are harmed as a result of participation in the study, you should contact Dr Kobus Herbst (Principal Investigator) or Miss Thobeka N. Mngomezulu (Population Intervention Programme (PIP) Study Coordinator) at the Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI) (035 550 7500) or Ms Nomathamsanqa Majozi the Head: Public Engagement (0800 203 695) toll free at any time. You will find these details on the flyer as well.

In agreeing to take part in this study you confirm that you understand this study and have been able to consider and ask questions before taking part.

Do you agree to be part of the study?

## 5.6 Parental consent for minor COVID-19 screening and testing at the testing point

According to the screening questionnaire, your child/ward seems to meet the criteria as a potential Coronavirus suspect; we would like to further assess them clinically, and if they meet the criteria, collect a sample for coronavirus testing.

At the testing site, we will provide more information to your child/ward about the procedures and ask them for their assent, but we also require your consent as a parent/guardian/caregiver. The procedure will be as follows:

1. A Clinical Research Assistant will ask them few more questions to assess whether they have symptoms and risk factors for Coronavirus infection.
2. If your child/ward meets the criteria, a nurse will do a clinical assessment for Coronavirus symptoms (cough, heart rate), take vital signs measurements, and ask questions about medical history.
3. If eligible, the nurse will be taking a swab sample in the nose and in the throat for Coronavirus testing; this is not painful but your child/ward may experience a bit of discomfort. The sample will be sent to a laboratory in Durban for testing and storage.
4. We will contact you by SMS or phone call to give you your child/ward’s results back.
5. Before they leave the clinic, they will be given a flyer with good hygiene advices to follow at home, and how-to self-isolate at home if they are suspected to be a Coronavirus case. Please do keep them. We will call you later for further information.
6. We would also like to ask permission to use your child/ward data, specimens and test results for further AHRI studies about Coronavirus.

All the information collected is kept private and confidential on a secure computer at AHRI, and only shared with team members linked to AHRI. After we remove any personally identifiable information, we may share the data with other scientists for analysis.

*[Note: at this stage, ask the parent/guardian/caregiver if they understood what you just said. Then ask them if they have any questions.]*

This study has been approved by the Biomedical Research Ethics Committee (BREC) of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (REFERENCE NUMBER BE290/16). BREC contact details are on the flyer that we will give your child/ward. The Ethics Committee may look at the information from the study to check that procedures are being correctly and safely followed but they will not see your name.

Your child/ward taking part in this study is entirely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason and without any negative consequence.

If you ever have questions about this study, or in case your child/ward is harmed as a result of participation in the study, you should contact Dr Kobus Herbst (Principal Investigator) or Miss Thobeka N. Mngomezulu (Population Intervention Programme (PIP) Study Coordinator) at the Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI) (035 550 7500) or Ms Nomathamsanqa Majozi the Head: Public Engagement (0800 203 695) toll free at any time. You will find these details on the flyer as well.

In agreeing for your child/ward to take part in this study you confirm that you understand this study and have been able to consider and ask questions before taking part.

Do you agree to your child/ward to be part of the study?

## 5.7 Assent for minor COVID-19 screening and testing at the testing point

*Introduce yourself and the Organisation. Explain that AHRI is supporting the health services for screening people for Coronavirus, and that we will strictly follow the guidelines. Mention that AHRI has already asked consent to their parents, but that you will explain how the process will work, with the following*:

1. First, I will ask you some questions about your health and if you had been in a situation where you may have been exposed to the Coronavirus.
2. If you have symptoms that resemble those of Coronavirus, a nurse will do a clinical check-up for Coronavirus symptoms and ask questions about your health.
3. The nurse will then decide if you should be tested or not. If so, she will a small piece of cotton wool fixed on a stick to take a sample from the nose and/or from the mouth; this is not painful, but you may experience a bit of discomfort because these are sensitive areas and we are not used to something touching them.
4. The first swab will go in through your nose, then pushed to the back of your throat.
5. For the second swab, the nurse will ask you to open widely your mouth to see the back of throat. If it cannot be seen properly, your tongue will be pressed down with a flat wooden stick to provide a better view. The swab will be lightly brushed over the back of your throat and over the tonsils. The test will be done in our laboratory in Durban.
6. We will contact your parent or legal guardian, by SMS or phone call, to give the result of the test.
7. Before you leave the clinic, you will be given a flyer with good hygiene advice to follow at home; you can give it to your parents or legal guardians. If the nurse determines that you are unwell after the examination, they may also refer you to a clinic for additional care.
8. All the information we will get from you today may be used for future studies on the Coronavirus to better understand how this microbe works, and we would also like to ask your permission for that.

All the information collected as part of this study is kept private and confidential on a secure computer at AHRI; and scientists who may use this information will not know who you are.

Research committees at the University of KZN have approved the study we are doing and their role is to make sure that the risks being involved in the study are not too great.

You can decide now whether you want to take part of this study or not: you are free not to participate, and this will not have any consequence on any testing or care you receive today of in the future

If you or your parents or legal guardians have any questions, there are several phone numbers that they can call; they are on the flyer we will give you.

*[Note for the CRA: at this stage, ask the minor what they learned today about this study. Then ask them if they have any questions.]*

Do you agree to be part of the study?