

## Consent form for Structured Survey of Current Students and Recent Graduates

### Introduction:

Hello! My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am from the research organization named NEERMAN, Mumbai. I am here to conduct your interviews for a study to understand the need, challenges, expectations and preferences for medical and nursing education and future job and career. This study is being conducted by the World Bank in collaboration with the health department of Government of [Tamil Nadu / Assam].

### What are we requesting you to do?

I am requesting you complete this survey questionnaire electronically on [this Tablet]. This self-administered form should take on average 40-45 minutes of your time. There are adequate instructions and tips throughout to help you understand the questions and answer options better. However, [I will be moderating this interview in person to guide you throughout and you can also ask me questions / if you have questions, you can contact the support desk any time at research\$neerman.org and we will come back with explanation to you].

The type of information collected from will include but is not limited to: (a) your socio-economic background; (b) perspectives and experiences in your educational and professional life; (c) aspirations for higher studies (d) costs and challenges faced in medical/nursing education and job market; (e) future job preferences and (f) earnings and benefits from medical/nursing education and profession. Additionally, you will also participate in a 'discrete choice experiment' where we will ask you to choose from 2-3 alternatives related to [medical/nursing] education and career, and offer 5-6 such sets. There are no questions that can harm you financially or emotionally, but you can refuse answering any questions you don't want to.

The data you provide will be analysed statistically and will never be linked to you individually. All data is presented as summary at a broad level only. The analysis will help us advise the World Bank and the [Govt of Tamil Nadu / Assam] on policies and strategies for medical and nursing education.

### The benefits of participating

[To current students: By participating in this study, you will not receive any money or other direct benefits. However, you may derive a sense of contribution by being a part of this study which is expected to help future generation of doctors and nurses].

### The risks and costs of participation

This study is being conducted with permission of the government and with ethics protection as per laws of India which are designed to keep you safe from identification. You do not have any additional risk or loss by participating in this discussion. It is possible that you may feel hesitant to answer some of our questions, but please note that you have the right to refuse answering any questions.

Your privacy and confidentiality of your data will be maintained as discussed next. But like any electronic database, there is a rarest of the rare chance of hacking or data leak from the secured servers. However, your data will be online only for a period of 1 month while the survey is ongoing which makes this risk close to nil.

### Privacy and Data Confidentiality

We would like to assure you that in this interview all your information will be kept safe and confidential as follows.

- The survey form will collect your identifiable information such as GPS location, name, phone number, etc but all this data is stored and transmitted with 16-bit encryption to a server based in India and conforming with IT Act 2012 for all security measures.
- Only the survey administration and management team will have access to above information to strictly quality assurance purposes such as verifying the interview, contact you to correct any errors.
- After the data collection period is over (approx. 1 month), all the datasets will be stored on a non-networked computers which only designated data security officer can access.
- No researcher or data analyst or government will have access to your personal details and the dataset will be completely de-identified before submission to the World Bank. After the study concludes, all your personal details will be deleted within 6 months. However, the deidentified data can be used for up to 25 years for this and other research purposes.

### Rights as Study Participants

- You have the right to decide whether you want to participate in this study or not
- Even if you agree to participate in the study, you can refuse to answer any questions and even stop the interview at any time without any loss to you.

### Do you have any questions about this study?

If you have any questions related to the study which I cannot answer, then you can contact Mr. Amit Patil, Data Security Officer of NEERMAN. If you want to go to higher authority about additional information or answers, then you can reach the Team Leader for this study, Dr. Sumeet Patil at following.

Mr Amit Patil Data Security Officer, NEERMAN Phone: +91 22-24021758 Email: research@neerman.org	Dr Sumeet Patil Team Lead, NEERMAN Phone: +91 22-24021758 Email: srpatil@neerman.org
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If you have any questions about the ethical aspects of the study, you can contact India-based IRB [NAME of IRB] [NAME OF IRB OFFICER/DESIGNATION] at [EMAIL] or [PHONE NUMBER].

### Consent and Signatures:

- [ ] I don't want to participate in the study
- [ ] I consent to participate in the study → Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
DAY MONTH YEAR