AN OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AND KEY INFORMATION
You are being invited to participate in a research study. It is important that you carefully think about whether being in this study is right for you and your situation. Your participation is voluntary. You may decide not to participate in this study. If you do participate, you may withdraw from the study at any time. Your decision not to take part or to withdraw will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Why is this study being done?

INSTRUCTIONS: Insert a concise overview (1-2 paragraphs) of the study’s purpose written in lay language. This could be a description of the study’s hypothesis or research question. Language may be modified as appropriate.

Basic element of consent 46.116(a)(1): “A statement that the study involves research [and] an explanation of the purposes of the research”

[Example 1] The purpose of this research study is to find out about ____. We think that ____ may help/affect/cause/be related to ____ by/because _____. This study will allow us to learn more about it.

[Example 2] Condition causes symptoms or behaviors, which may involve ____. [Insert a short discussion of how or why the study intervention might affect the condition or behavior. Do not promise efficacy or safety.]

[If conducting the study in a prison setting with research project involving prison staff or inmates as participants, also include a description of the anticipated uses of the results of the research.] The results of this study will be used to ____.

What will happen if I participate?
INSTRUCTIONS: Insert a concise overview (no more than 1 page) of the research procedures explained from the participant’s perspective. This information must be organized and presented in a way that facilitates comprehension.

This should briefly outline all the types of activities that they will be asked to do because full details can be given in a later section. Do not include activities that are done for usual care or other purposes (e.g. QI, regular education, etc.). Language may be modified as appropriate.

Basic element of consent 46.116(a)(1): “the expected duration of the subject's participation, a description of the procedures to be followed, identification of any procedures that are experimental”
Additional element of consent 46.116(b)(6): “The approximate number of subjects involved in the study”

[Example 1] Usual care for your health condition involves ______. In this study, you will receive usual care, and in addition, you will be asked to ______. [Or, if usual care will be replaced with another treatment/procedure/test, use “instead of _____, you will ______.”]

[If randomization occurs, insert:] You will be randomly assigned (like the flip of a coin) to receive either ___ or ____. [Can also list as bullets if several arms.] You have ___ chance in ___ of being assigned to placebo, and _____ chance in ___ of receiving ____. [Or can say] You have an equal chance of being assigned to any one of the groups.

[Example 2] In this study, you will be asked to do the following things:

1. Visit [location] ___ times for study visits
2. Participate in either individual tutoring or group tutoring 3 times a week for ___ months
3. Have an MRI scan ___ times
4. Take math and reading tests ___ times
5. Take surveys and answer questions about [describe general topics]
6. Keep a diary at home
7. Give permission for the researchers to collect information about [describe general topics] from your school records.

Your participation in this study will last up to [insert length of time]. Approximately [insert how many total] individuals will participate in this study.

What alternative treatments or procedures are available?

INSTRUCTIONS: Insert a concise overview (1-2 paragraphs) of the alternatives or other options that would be available to individuals who do not participate in this study. Language may be modified as appropriate.

If the participant’s only option is to not participate in this study, then this information may be deleted.
Identify whether any of the study’s procedures and treatment options would be available outside of the study to individuals who do not want to participate (e.g. psychological treatment, coaching, drugs, devices).

If participants have an alternative way of completing a study procedure (e.g. filling out a paper instead of an online questionnaire, taking a survey home, going to a different location for a test, having a MRI instead of a CT, etc.), describe that option.

Basic element of consent 46.116(a)(4): “A disclosure of appropriate alternative procedures or courses of treatment, if any, that might be advantageous to the subject”

[If this is a treatment study (e.g. psychological treatment):] If you decide not to enter this study, you can receive the usual care that you would receive even if you were not in the study. This includes [List the major therapies that are part of usual care]. The study staff will discuss these options with you. You do not have to participate in this study to be treated for [disease or condition name].

[If the study involves a marketed drug or device or common activity:] You could receive [e.g. drug or device/yoga classes/weight loss coaching/tutoring] without being in the study. Talk to the study staff or your regular doctor to see if this would be a good option for you.

[Example:] You have the option to take a paper survey instead of an electronic one. Ask the study staff if you would like a paper survey.

[Example:] You can receive extra credit without being in the study by [explain the alternative way to earn credit].

What are the risks and benefits of participating?

INSTRUCTIONS: Insert a concise overview (no more than 1 page) of the most common risks or discomforts and of the anticipated benefits of being in the study. The template uses a table format to facilitate comprehension.

Risks must be described using lay terms. If the study involves many potential side effects, include only the most common side effects here and give a full description of all risks later in this consent form. Language may be modified as appropriate.

Basic element of consent 46.116(a)(2): “A description of any reasonably foreseeable risks or discomforts to the subject”
Basic element of consent 46.116(a)(3): “A description of any benefits to the subject or to others that may reasonably be expected from the research”
There are both risks and benefits of participating in research studies. We want you to know about a few key risks right now. We will give you more information in the “WHAT RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS CAN I EXPECT FROM BEING IN THE STUDY?” section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risks and Discomforts</th>
<th>Benefits to You and Others</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Example 1 – example of experimental intervention risks</strong></td>
<td><strong>Example 1 – potential direct benefits</strong> There is some evidence that [insert intervention] is effective in [insert description of how it may help]. However, it is unlikely that it will work with everyone, and we cannot promise that it will help you. This study may help the investigators learn things that may help other people in the future.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. There is a risk that ____ may not be as good as the usual approach for ____.</td>
<td><strong>Example 2 – potential direct benefits</strong> There is no guarantee that you will receive any benefits from being in this study. However, possible benefits include ____. We hope the information learned from this study will provide more information about ____.</td>
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<td>2. There is also a risk that you could have problems because of doing ____. Below are some of the most common risks and discomforts:</td>
<td><strong>Example 3 – no anticipated direct benefits</strong> This study is not likely to help you. However, it may help the investigators understand how _____ works.</td>
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<td>- [Insert the most important risks in a bulleted list. This should be similar to the information that a qualified expert might deliver in a professional context. It should be a brief list (i.e. generally around 5, although more may be necessary).]</td>
<td><strong>Example 4 – no anticipated direct benefits</strong> This is not a treatment study, and you are not expected to receive any direct medical benefits from your participation in the study. The information from this research study may lead to a better treatment in the future for people with condition name.</td>
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| 3. There may be some risks that the investigators do not know about yet, so we will let you know of any new findings. | **If this study will include prisoners as subjects, insert:** If you are or should become involuntarily detained, confined or incarcerated (in a jail, prison, or alternative }
Example 3 – examples of non-physical risks

- Participation in research might involve some loss of privacy. There is a small risk that someone outside the research study could see and misuse information about you.
- The study questionnaires ask questions that are [sensitive/personal/upsetting/offensive/disturbing/etc.] in nature and may make you feel uncomfortable.

Now that you have a general overview of the study, we want to provide the details about what your participation involves. Please read, or have someone read to you, the rest of this document. If there is anything you don’t understand, be sure to ask the study staff.