

**LETTER OF INFORMATION AND
CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY**
Patient Teacher – Online Application Form

Protocol Title: Humanism Education in Surgery: Developing a *Patients as Teachers Initiative in Surgery* for Clerkship Students (**Online Application Form**)

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Introduction

You are being asked to consider participating in an evaluative research study. This form provides all the information we think you will need to know in order to decide whether or not you wish to take part in this study. Please read this explanation about the study and its risks and benefits before you decide if you would like to take part. You should take as much time as you need to make your decision. You should ask the study investigator or research coordinator to explain anything that you do not understand and make sure that all of your questions have been answered before signing this consent form. Before you make your decision, feel free to talk about this study with anyone you wish. Participation in this study is voluntary. Your decision to participate or not participate in this study will have no impact on your present or future care at St. Michael's Hospital.

Background and Purpose

You have been invited to consider participating in this study because you are interested in becoming a Patient Teacher for the *Patients as Teachers Initiative in Surgery*.

This study aims to capture whether how different stakeholders (in this case Patient Teachers) understand and conceive of the program. We are interested in your responses to the application form as a potential Patient Teacher.

Study Design

This portion of the study consists of consenting for the study to include your online application form as part of research data.

Please note that you **will** be considered to join the program as a patient teacher even if you do not consent to your online application to be part of our study data.

Study Procedures

If you consent to participate, we will ask you to **indicate your response on the online application** where it says “Please indicate whether you consent to your online application form to be part of the *Patients as Teachers* study.” By consenting to participate, your online application responses will be included in the data for this study.

After participation in the program, you will be approached again about participating in further components of this research study. Please know that you do not have to participate in any of the other components just because you participated in this one.

Alternatives to Participation

The alternative is not to take part in the study. If you choose not to take part in this study, you and your family will continue to have access to customary care at St. Michael’s Hospital and you will still be considered to be a patient teacher in the program. We thank you for your interest in being a patient teacher.

Potential Harms (Injuries, Risks, or Discomforts)

There are no physical, social, or psychological risks.

Benefits to Being in the Study

While there is no direct benefit or compensation for including your application form as study data, information learned from this study may help optimize the initiative for future implementations.

Cost of Participation and Reimbursement

There is no cost and no reimbursement for participating in the pre/post survey.

Participation and Withdrawal

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You may decide not to be in this study, or to be in the study now and then change your mind later. You may leave the study at any time without any effect on your care at St. Michael’s Hospital. If you choose to withdraw your online application form, we will not use your data in our analysis. Once data analysis begins, you will not be able to withdraw your online application form from the study.

Confidentiality and Privacy

Confidentiality will be respected and no information that discloses your identity will be released or published without your consent unless required by law. You will be identified with a study number only on a master list of study participants. This list will be destroyed

after completion of the analysis. Your name and identifying information will not be used in any publications or presentations that come from this study. Only the study team or the people or groups listed below will be allowed to look at your records.

Study data may be inspected by study investigators from the Unity Health Toronto Research Ethics Board for the purposes of study monitoring. The data will be collected, coded, and stored in accordance with the Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA) in Ontario and St. Michael's Hospital guidelines.

Further Information

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to speak to the study team for any reason, please email research coordinator Farah at FriesenF@smh.ca or call Dr. Jory S. Simpson during regular business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm).

Research Ethics Boards Contact

This study protocol has been reviewed by the Unity Health Toronto Research Ethics Board. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant you may contact the chair of the Research Ethics Board, at (416) 864-6060 Ext 2557. The REB is a group of people who oversee the ethical conduct of research studies. These people are not part of the study team. Everything that you discuss will be kept confidential.

[Your consent to participate will be demonstrated if you indicate “yes” on the online application form.](#)

Please close this window to return to the online application form.