



Notice of COVID-Related Risks during Research

Please read this form before you consent to participate in a research study. Please also talk to the researcher about any concerns you have before signing the consent form or agreeing to participate in the research. Remember that research participants may withdraw from a study at any time, without giving a reason.

Contact Tracing

The UBC BREB takes direction from public health authorities and the BC Centre for Disease Control around reducing the risk of exposure and notifying close contacts of potential exposure. Researchers will take precautions during study activity to lower the risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19. If you do experience symptoms, please review the BC Centre for Disease Control website for recommended steps to take: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/self-isolation/contact-tracing>. The researchers will notify you if they believe you have been exposed to COVID at any point during the research project.

Risks of in-person contact during the research

For research that involves in-person activities such as focus groups, interviews or observations, the researchers will be following safety plans that have been approved by the University. You should know that although there are safety protocols in place, participants in this study are not required to be vaccinated and this may increase the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Safety Plans include: safe use of facilities (including outdoor spaces), experimental equipment, personal protective devices, and physical distancing.

If you are required to use public transit to get to or from a research location, this may increase your risk of being exposed to COVID-19. We encourage you to take all precautions, including wearing a face mask while in public, washing your hands, avoiding touching your face, and keeping a safe physical distance from others (at least 2 metres or 6 feet). Please let the researcher know if you want more information about the safety plans that have been put in place.

What if I have COVID-19 symptoms or am diagnosed with COVID-19?

Before every research activity, the researcher will ask each person who is present a series of questions about their health, using the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool. The questions have been recommended by public health authorities, and ask about physical symptoms, if you have been in contact with people who are sick, and other questions. Based on your responses, the researcher will decide if it is safe to proceed with the in-person activity. Go to <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en> to view the tool. It is available in multiple languages.

Ensure that you keep the research team's contact information, should you need to follow-up with them.

Thank you!