Informed Consent Verbal Script
UNC Asheville Institutional Review Board **(Version 1.0)**
UNC Asheville IRB Website

The IRB may approve a verbal/oral script as an alternative to the written form in research that is determined to involve minimal risk. The script must include the general requirements of informed consent and be submitted to the IRB for review and approval prior to initiation of research.

The informed consent process should be appropriate to the research and participant population being studied.

The script should include the following elements:

1. Description of the research and investigators conducting the research;
2. Explanation of the procedures (e.g., audio/video recording);
3. Duration of the subject's participation;
4. Subject protections (e.g., extent to which confidentiality will be maintained);
5. Permission to begin the research;
6. If feasible, the participant should be given the contact information of the investigator (e.g., business card, copy of the script with contact information listed).

Example 1

I am conducting research about _____ and I am interested in your experiences as a _____.

The purpose of the research is to _____. Your participation will involve one informal interview that will last between thirty minutes and an hour. This research has no known risks. This research will benefit the academic community because it helps us to understand _____.

Please know that I will do everything I can to protect your privacy. Your identity or personal information will not be disclosed in any publication that may result from the study. Notes that are taken during the interview will be stored in a secure location.

Would it be all right if I audiotaped our interview? Saying no to audio recording will have no effect on the interview.

Example 2

Please keep in mind that your participation is voluntary. I can supply you with contact information regarding this study upon request. My name is _____, and I am a _____ at UNC Asheville interested in your experience as a _____. The research is being conducted to find out the effects _____ has on _____. Your participation will only be needed once for a few questions that should last ten to fifteen minutes.

The information provided will remain strictly confidential and you will not be identified by

your answers. You and/or your company's name will not be disclosed in any way. Data will be compiled as a whole with no individual responses tied to your name or any identifying information about you. All information disclosed during the survey will be kept in a secure location. This conversation is not being recorded but notes will be taken. You may choose not to answer any question.

Do you have any questions before we get started?

Example 3

Hello, my name is _____, and I'm a _____ at UNC Asheville. I am calling because I am conducting a study about _____ and would like to ask you a few questions. The questions will take a few minutes and the information you provide will only be used in the study. Would it be okay to begin with my questions?