



Letter of Consent for Injured Workers

Immigrant Workers' Experiences after Work-related Injury and Illness

Dear participant,

We are interested in the experiences of immigrant workers who have been hurt on the job, or whose jobs have made them sick.

We would like to know more about your' experiences with the workers' compensation system, health care providers, and with other agencies and services for injured workers. We are also interested in your knowledge of your rights as a worker, and in hearing about your thoughts on how the services and processes you have encountered (for example, workers' compensation, health care, rehabilitation, etc.) may be improved.

If you agree to participate in this study, you will be interviewed by a researcher from the Institute for Work & Health. We are a research institute and have no direct association with your service providers, injured worker groups, or workers' compensation service provision. The interview will take approximately an hour and will be at a place and time that is convenient for you. You will receive a gift certificate as a "thank you" for your time. You may retain this certificate even if you later decide to withdraw from the study. With your consent, the interview will be tape-recorded and then transcribed. If you need translation and interpretation services they will be provided, free of cost. All interpreters present at interviews have signed a confidentiality agreement and will not share with anyone any information discussed in interviews.

Interviews are confidential and anonymous. All of the information collected during the study, such as tape-recorded interviews and transcripts, will be confidential and will be viewed only by the researchers directly involved in this project. This consent letter will be stored separately from your interview tape and transcript in order to protect your identity. All materials will be kept in locked filing cabinets at the Institute for Work & Health. No one from your workplace or service provider or workers' compensation will know who is interviewed for this study. No one but the immediate research team will know any personal information about who participated in the study. We will never identify you personally in any published material.

We may publish this research after the study is completed, and we may present the study results at conferences and workshops. In future, we may use the information gathered from our interviews for other research studies. The same conditions will apply: all data will be confidential, anonymous, and protected.

Your participation in this study is voluntary. You don't have to answer any question if you don't want to. You can leave the study at any time. If you decide to stop the interview or leave the study I will destroy the interview tape unless you tell me it is okay to use it. If you choose not to answer questions or to leave the study there will be **no risks** such as effects on your compensation services or your relationship with service providers.

While the study may not help you directly, it may help other injured workers because it can help us understand their needs and experiences. We hope this study will help improve services, information, and procedures to help immigrant workers stay safe and healthy.

Participate in the interview (please check one)

I agree to participate in the interview

I do not agree to participate in the interview

Taping of interview

I agree to have the interview taped

I do not agree to have the interview taped

I have read and understand the above conditions of participation. I also acknowledge that I have received a signed copy of the consent form.

(Participant's Name – please print) (Signature) (Date)

(Witness' Name – please print) (Signature) (Date)

If you would like to have a copy of the research results please write your address or email here:

(Address) (Email)

If you have any questions about the research either now or during the course of the study, please contact the principal investigator, Agnieszka Kosny, at 416 927-2027 ext. 2167 or by e-mail at akosny@iwh.on.ca.

This project has been reviewed and received ethics clearance from the McMaster Research Ethics Board. Participants with concerns or questions respecting their involvement in the study may contact:

The McMaster Research Ethics Board Secretariat
c/o the Office of Research Ethics
Telephone: 905-525-9140 ext. 23142
E-mail: ethicsoffice@mcmaster.ca