COVID-19 has presented additional risks and challenges to conducting face-to-face research. Please see the attached COVID specific consent information prior to signing this document.

Covid-19 Specific Consent Information

Our laboratory at York University is under the jurisdiction of the city of Toronto public health. We are taking all safety precautions to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 and expect you to follow public health directives as well.

Only research involving participants considered “low risk” may proceed at this time. If you feel that you are from a vulnerable group with respect to COVID-19 effects (e.g., senior, immuno-compromised), please discuss your participation with the research team before consenting.

As always, regardless of your relation to the laboratory, you are under no obligation to participate and there will be no negative consequences if you change your mind about participating in the research. If at any time you feel pressured to participate, please contact the senior researcher NAME OF PI (insert EMAIL). Your safety and comfort are of paramount importance.

Because you are coming onto campus, the following safety protocols must be followed, as per Occupational Health and Safety:

- Screening – as per requirements for persons coming onto campus.

- Take appropriate precautions (e.g. face covering / cloth mask) if taking public transportation and entering public indoor spaces.

- Wash your hands upon coming onto campus / entrance to building. Hand sanitizer will be made available to you.

- Physical distancing will be maintained, at all times, and if not possible wear a face covering / cloth mask. Otherwise we will provide you with PPE.

- We will be collecting personal contact information that we must retain in order to follow up with you and/or conduct contact tracing if you may have been exposed to COVID-19 in coming to the research site.

- Contact information will be kept separate from data collected through the research study to allow for de-identification of the research data (if applicable, as detailed in the protocol).

You maintain your right to withdraw from the study at any time, including research data (if applicable). If you do withdraw, we will continue to maintain your contact information and will only give it to Occupational Health if required for contact tracing.

We cannot guarantee anonymity as the personal contact information identifies you as a participant.