

## **MEHARRY RESEARCH PARTNERS**

### **Information and Research Volunteer Agreement**

#### **What is Meharry Research Partners?**

- A database that pairs research volunteers with Meharry research studies that interest them.

#### **How do Meharry research volunteers find out about studies that match their interest?**

- Research volunteers enroll in Meharry Research Partners by filling out a form that describes themselves and their health history. See attached form.
- Meharry Research Partners identifies volunteers from the database whose descriptions match Meharry research study needs.
- Meharry Research Partners will send the research volunteer information about the study. Research volunteers will be invited to learn more about the study before making a decision about participating.

#### **How does joining Meharry Research Partners help the community and society overall?**

- Increases the number of people willing to help find cures for conditions and diseases.
- Increases the number of people willing to help find new ways to prevent and treat conditions and diseases.
- Increases the number of people helping to have a healthier society now and in the future.
- Speeds up the time it takes to find people willing to help prevent, treat, and cure conditions and diseases.

#### **What are personal benefits for research volunteers when they join Meharry Research Partners?**

- May be matched with a study where they learn more about how to treat their own condition or disease.
- Research volunteers spend less time looking for research studies of interest.
- Research volunteers have control over which studies they choose to hear more about.
- Research volunteers can learn more about research in general.

#### **Is there a guarantee that research volunteers will receive research study invitations?**

- No. Research volunteers will only be contacted if their information matches a research study's needs.

#### **How can a research volunteer increase the chance of receiving research study invitations?**

- Share as much information about themselves and their health history that they are comfortable with.

#### **What if research volunteers do not have any health conditions or diseases?**

- That is perfectly fine. Healthy research volunteers are also needed.

#### **What are the costs and risks for research volunteers when they join Meharry Research Partners?**

- Joining is free.
- There is the chance that personal information can be shared outside Meharry Research Partners.

#### **What will Meharry Research Partners do to keep research volunteer's information private?**

- Keep any paper forms in locked file cabinets. Keep electronic forms on secure computers.
- Limit the amount of people that can get to research volunteers information.
- Never sell, rent, or lease research volunteer information.

#### **Who can join Meharry Research Partners?**

- Those who are 18 years old or older
- Those with a health condition or disease
- Those without a health condition or disease
- Parent, legal guardian, or caretaker for an individual who is under 18 years old
- Parent, legal guardian, or caretaker for someone unable to enroll on their own

#### **How do research volunteers join Meharry Research Partners?**

- Complete the attached personal information form to share only what they are comfortable with sharing.

### **How do research volunteers know that the Meharry research studies are safe?**

- Before research volunteers are contacted about a study, Meharry Research Partners will make sure the study is approved by Meharry's Institutional Review Board.
- Meharry's Institutional Review Board is a group of researchers and at least one community member that review and approve research study procedures. Once they approve studies, they review the study procedures and study progress each year until the study ends. Their job is to make sure that research procedures are ethical and safe.

### **What happens after research volunteers join Meharry Research Partners?**

- Researcher volunteers will be contacted by Meharry Research Partners if they match a research study's needs.
- They may receive a phone call, letter or flyer in the mail, or an email.
- If they are interested in the study, research volunteers can follow instructions for getting more information.

### **Does Meharry Research Partners support or recommend any specific Meharry research studies?**

- No. Meharry Research Partners only helps to match research volunteers with research studies that have been approved by the Meharry Institutional Review Board.

### **What if research volunteers decide they no longer want to be a part of Meharry Research Partners?**

- Research volunteers can email [community@mmc.edu](mailto:community@mmc.edu) or call 615.327.5807 to have their names removed.
- Research volunteers will not receive information about new studies after asking to be removed.
- Being removed will not stop contact from researchers that research volunteers have already communicated with.

### **How do research volunteers change their contact or other information in Meharry Research Partners?**

- Email [community@mmc.edu](mailto:community@mmc.edu) or call 615.327.5807.

### **Does Meharry Research Partners provide health care services?**

- No. Meharry Research Partners does not provide any health or medical services, products, or advice.
- Research volunteers should a doctor for any questions or concerns about their medical health or condition.

## **Research Volunteer Agreement**

### **If I fill out the attached personal information form, what am I agreeing to?**

- To enroll in the Meharry Research Partners
- That I am 18 years old or older
- That I have the legal right to enroll myself in Meharry Research Partners
- That I have the legal right to enroll others in Meharry Research Partners. This means I am a parent, legal guardian, or caretaker of the other person.
- That I have provided correct information about myself or others
- That I agree to terms of this agreement for myself or others
- To let Meharry Research Partners contact me about research studies
- To let Meharry Research Partners share my personal information in the following cases:
  - To show that I agreed to all the terms of this agreement
  - To respond to my questions or concerns
  - If local, state, or federal laws require that my information be shared

### **Questions or Concerns?**

- For general questions, please send an email to [community@mmc.edu](mailto:community@mmc.edu) or call 615-327-5807.
- For more information about giving consent or about your rights as a person involved in research at Meharry Medical College, please feel free to call the Meharry Medical College Institutional Review Board of Record Office at (615) 327-6735.