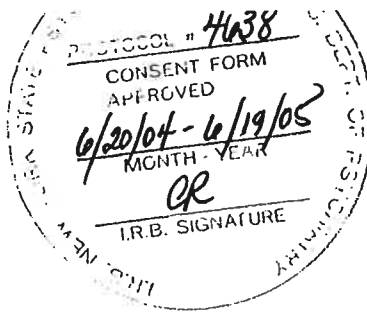


Version: 12 April 2004

ID # KI002XP4



IRB # 4638

INTERNET STUDY CONSENT FORM¹

I. Purpose of Study

You are being asked to participate in a research study to explore the behavior known as “barebacking” among gay men. The purpose of the study is to better understand the personal, interpersonal and other circumstances associated with barebacking. We also want to explore what HIV-prevention methods, other than condoms, can be acceptable to people who don’t use condoms. You have been invited to participate given your knowledge about this topic. A total of 144 individuals will participate in this study.

II. Study Procedures

This study will involve a single interview that will last approximately one to two hours and will be held at the New York State Psychiatric Institute or another agreed upon location. The interview will include questions about the use of the Internet to meet sexual partners, cultural issues (e.g., kind of language that people use in chat rooms), your understanding of what “barebacking” means and issues related to this practice, sexual behavior, means to prevent HIV transmission other than using condoms (e.g., microbicides), and questions about emotions, mood, and self-esteem.

III. Audio-taping

¹Questions

If you have any questions about this study, you can call Dr. Alex Carballo-Diéguéz at (212) 543-5261.

Audio-taping of the interview is a requirement for study participation. The tapes are used to have an accurate record of the discussion. Nevertheless, you have the right to withdraw your consent at any time and tapes can be erased either during or after the interview.

The tapes may be transcribed by the person interviewing you or by another person who will have signed a confidentiality agreement and will not have access to your identifying information. As soon as the tape is transcribed and the transcript checked for accuracy, the tape will be destroyed. This will take place within the three weeks of the interview.

IV. Risks

The study is confidential. To protect your confidentiality, no identifying information about you will be recorded on the audiotapes or appear in tape transcripts or on study records. You are encouraged to use an alias when you sign this form.

The interviews are likely to last 90 minutes and may involve personal matters. It is possible that you may feel upset, tired, or anxious. If this happens, you can choose not to answer specific questions or ask to have the interview stopped at any time.

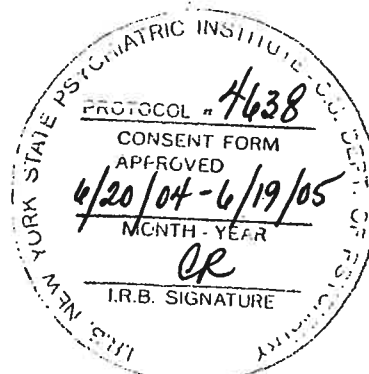
V. Benefits

There is no direct benefit to you for participating in this study. The indirect benefit is that you may contribute to the better understanding of certain sexual behaviors of gay males.

VI. Compensation

You will receive \$50 in cash at the end of the interview as compensation for your time.

VII. Confidentiality



Any name, including aliases, that you may provide, will be kept in a locked cabinet available only to the research staff. All records will be kept confidential. There are legal advocacy organizations that have the authority under State law to access otherwise confidential study participant records, though they cannot re-disclose this information without your consent. Records will only be available to research staff, and State, Federal and Institutional regulatory personnel (who may review records as part of the routine audits).

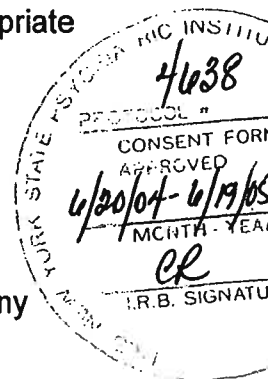
Your name and other personal identifying information will be stored in an electronically secure database at New York State Psychiatric Institute. All data stored in computers will be password protected and will not include names that may connect the information back to you. All communications that we may have had electronically will be deleted from our computers as soon as the audiotapes have been transcribed and checked for accuracy, a process that will be completed within three weeks of your interview.

This research is covered by a Certificate of Confidentiality issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). With this Certificate, the researchers cannot be forced to release any research data in which you are identified, even under a court order or subpoena, without your written consent. The Certificate does not prevent the researchers from reporting suspected or known neglect or sexual or physical abuse of a child, or threatened violence to self or others. Such information will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

VIII. Research Standards and Rights of Participants

Participation in this research is voluntary. You may decide to stop participating at any time.

The investigator will answer to the best of his ability any questions that you may have now or in the future about the procedures or about your response to the procedures. You can



reach Dr. Alex Carballo-Diéguez at (212) 543-5261.

The New York State Psychiatric Institute-Columbia University Department of Psychiatry Institutional Review Board has approved recruitment for this study. If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant or any complaints, you can call the NYSPI-IRB Administrative Director at (212) 543-5758 during office hours.

You will be given a copy of this consent form to keep.

IX. Documentation of Consent

I voluntarily agree to participate in the research study described above.

Date 10/13/04

Participant's first name/fictitious first name and ID# JS KI 002X04

I have discussed the proposed research with this participant and, in my opinion, this participant understands the benefits, risks, and alternatives (including non-participation) and is capable of freely consenting to participate in this research.

Person obtaining consent (PRINT) G W Dowsett

Signature of person obtaining consent 