**Addendum to consent form regarding COVID**

**[Title of Study]**

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock is committed to practices that protect the safety and welfare of research participants. This form discusses health and safety concerns regarding COVID-19, and how it relates to research participation.

**COVID-19** is the illness caused by the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2. The spread of COVID-19 means that there are some other pieces of information we need to provide to you before you [continue your participation/decide to participate] in this study. If, because of COVID-19, participating in research is not right for you at this time, you are free [to end your participation/not to participate]. Nothing bad will happen, and no one will be upset with you.

**COVID-19 is a respiratory virus**, which spreads in the air when people cough, sneeze, speak, sing, and breathe. It is mainly spread person-to-person, and mainly when people are close to each other. It can also be spread by touching something that has the virus, and then touching your face.

**Ways to lower the chance of infection** include vaccinations, facial masks, social distancing,hand washing, and use of hand sanitizers that include alcohol.

**What does that mean for your participation in this study?** Because this study involves [describe the in-person component of the study], participating could potentially increase your exposure to COVID-19. For most people, COVID-19 causes mild to moderate symptoms, such as a fever and a cough. However, for some people, it can cause more severe illness, and for a small percentage of people, it can result in death. This is especially true for people who are older (above 65) or who have existing health conditions like diabetes, cancer, or chronic respiratory conditions.

**Vaccinations** are widely available and are the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID. You can learn more about vaccinations on the State of Arkansas’ [Department of Health website](https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/covid-19-vaccination-plan) .

In this research project we are taking the following precautions to minimize the chances that COVID-19 might be caught or spread during participation in this research study:

* List all safety measures

**If there are additional precautions you would like the research team to take for your safety,** please inform the person listed below. Researchers will make every attempt to accommodate precautions above and beyond what is listed, but may not be able to incorporate all requests. Please do not participate if you do not feel safe doing so.

Please also note that researchers will be screening participants to ensure your safety and their own safety. Even if you want to participate, there might be circumstances where it is not safe, at this time, for you to do so. Examples include if you are over the age of 65, have an existing health condition that compromises your immune system, or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

If you have questions about your participation in research and COVID-19, you can consult with the study team (list PI information), or you can also contact the Office of Research Compliance at (501) 916-6209 or at irb@ualr.edu. Please keep a copy of this form for later reference.