

Title of the Project: Team Processes in Emergency Medicine: An Ethnographic Study

Swiss Ethics File Number: Req-2025-00371

Institution: Team Ethnography, CoMind Lab, University Clinic for Emergency Medicine at the University of Bern



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Consent form to participate in an interview

This project examines team processes in emergency medicine: How do physicians, nurses, patients, and their relatives interact with each other and exchange information? What influence does this exchange have on the diagnosis? To answer these questions, the researchers are conducting interviews with a large number of people who work or receive treatment in the emergency departments of two Swiss hospitals. The researchers are also observing the work processes and communication between physicians, nurses, patients, and their relatives in the emergency departments of these Swiss hospitals.

Your participation in this interview is voluntary. You can refuse to participate without giving any reason, you can refuse to answer individual questions, and you can end the interview at any time.

The results of this study will be presented in scientific journals, books, and at conferences.

At the end of this form, you can give the researchers permission to make an audio recording of the interview. This will allow the researchers to transcribe the interview afterwards, meaning to create a word-for-word protocol of the interview. An audio recording allows the researchers to focus fully on you during the interview without having to take extensive notes. The researchers use the AI software noScribe to create the interview transcript.

Your name, the name of the emergency clinic where you work or were treated, and any other personally identifying information will be kept strictly confidential by the researchers. This means:

- Your name and the name and location of the emergency department, as well as any other information that could identify you, will not be mentioned in future publications and will be replaced by pseudonyms. A pseudonym is a fictitious name used instead of your real name.
- Only the principle investigator and the research assistants know which pseudonym (fictitious name) corresponds to your real name.
- All research data will be stored and protected with a password. The research data includes your name in a list of all study participants, this consent form, the interview notes, the audio recording, and the interview transcript.
- Only the principle investigator and the research assistants have access to the research data.

The pseudonymized transcript of your interview will be stored for at least 10 years after the end of data collection. Your personal data and the audio recording of your interview may be destroyed earlier if they are no longer needed for data processing.

You will not receive any money for participating in this study.

You can withdraw your participation in this project at any time until the research results are published by sending an email to Maïke Isaac (see above for contact details).

If you have any questions, you can contact the researchers at any time. Their contact details are provided at the beginning of this form.

Please sign below to confirm that you have read this information and agree to participate in the study.

One copy of this consent form is for you. We will keep another copy for our records.

Your name: (in block letters) _____

I have read and understood this form. Yes: ☐ No: ☐

I agree that the researcher may interview me about my experiences in the emergency room. Yes: ☐ No: ☐

I agree that the researcher may make an audio recording of the interview. Yes: ☐ No: ☐

The researchers should contact me by email to inform me about the study results. Yes: ☐ No: ☐

Your email address and/or phone number: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

