

# SESSION II: The Informed Consent Process: An Interactive Discussion

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*March 10, 2015*



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TRIALS  
**TRANSFORMATION**  
INITIATIVE

# Session II Objectives

- Solicit feedback on proposed recommendations for ensuring a more effective informed consent process to achieve enhanced research participant understanding
- Solicit feedback on the utility of the proposed informed consent checklist
- Discuss roadblocks to implementation and steps that can be taken to overcome them

# Proposed Recommendations for the Informed Consent Process: Who, How, When, Where

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Pfizer Clinical Development, Groton, Connecticut

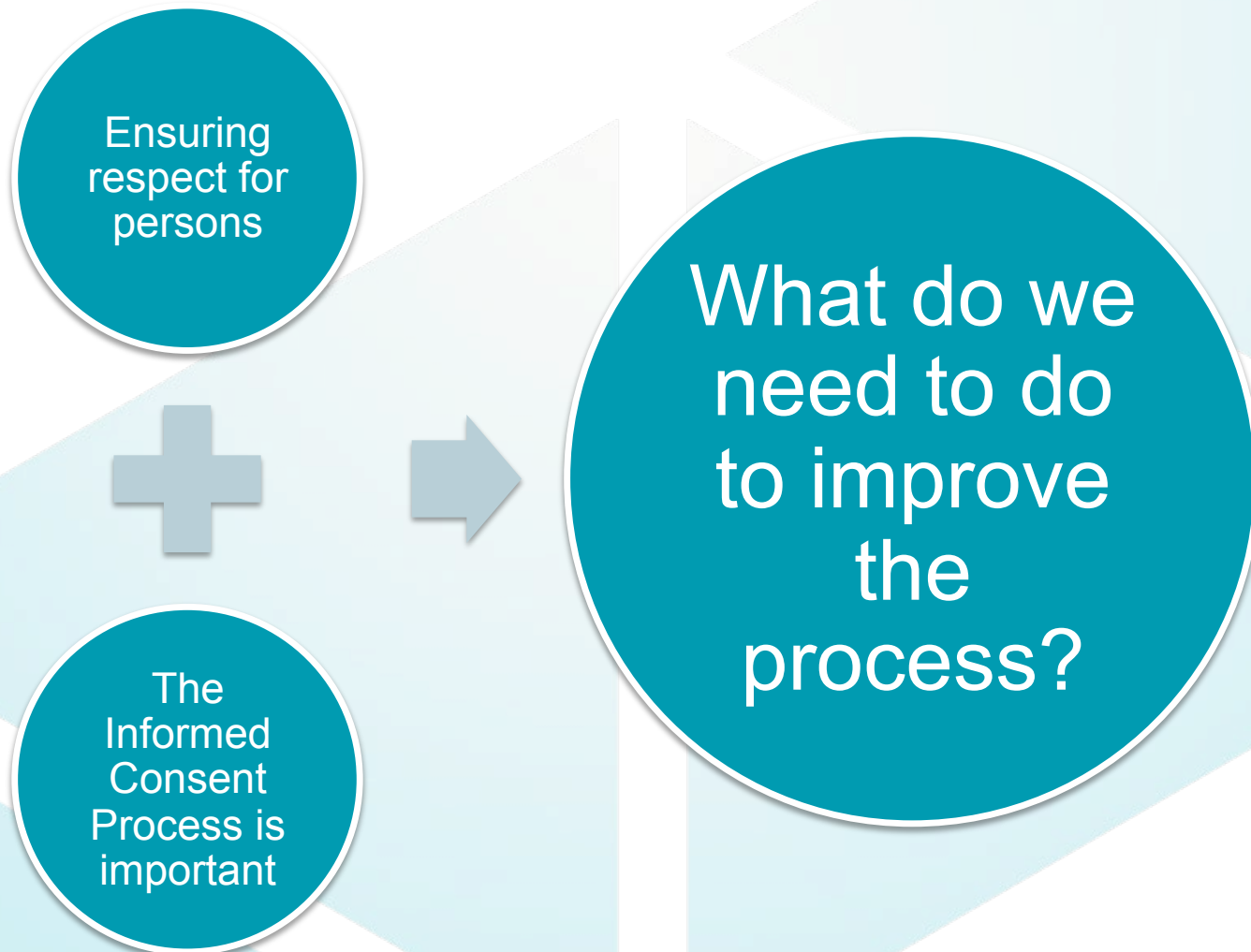


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# Background



# Proposed Recommendations

Defining the Process

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graph TD; A[Defining the Process] --> B[Key Elements of the Informed Consent Process]; B --> C[Informed Consent Checklist];
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Key Elements of the  
Informed Consent Process

Informed Consent  
Checklist

*\*Does not cover specialized situations*

# Defining the Process

- Ongoing, interactive conversation between participant and research staff
- Document is part of the process but not the primary mechanism for consenting participants
- Process continues after the document is signed
  - Throughout course of trial, staff should continuously follow-up with participants to assure ongoing consent

# Who should be involved in the process?





# When is the informed consent process conducted?

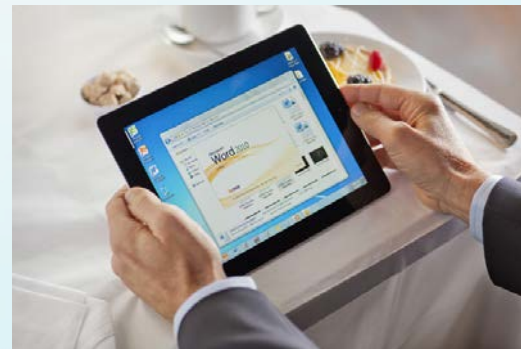
- Before the research participant undergoes any research related procedures
- If possible, document can be provided to the participant ahead of time
- At a time when the potential participant can focus on the process
- Ongoing throughout the trial, particularly when there are significant new findings

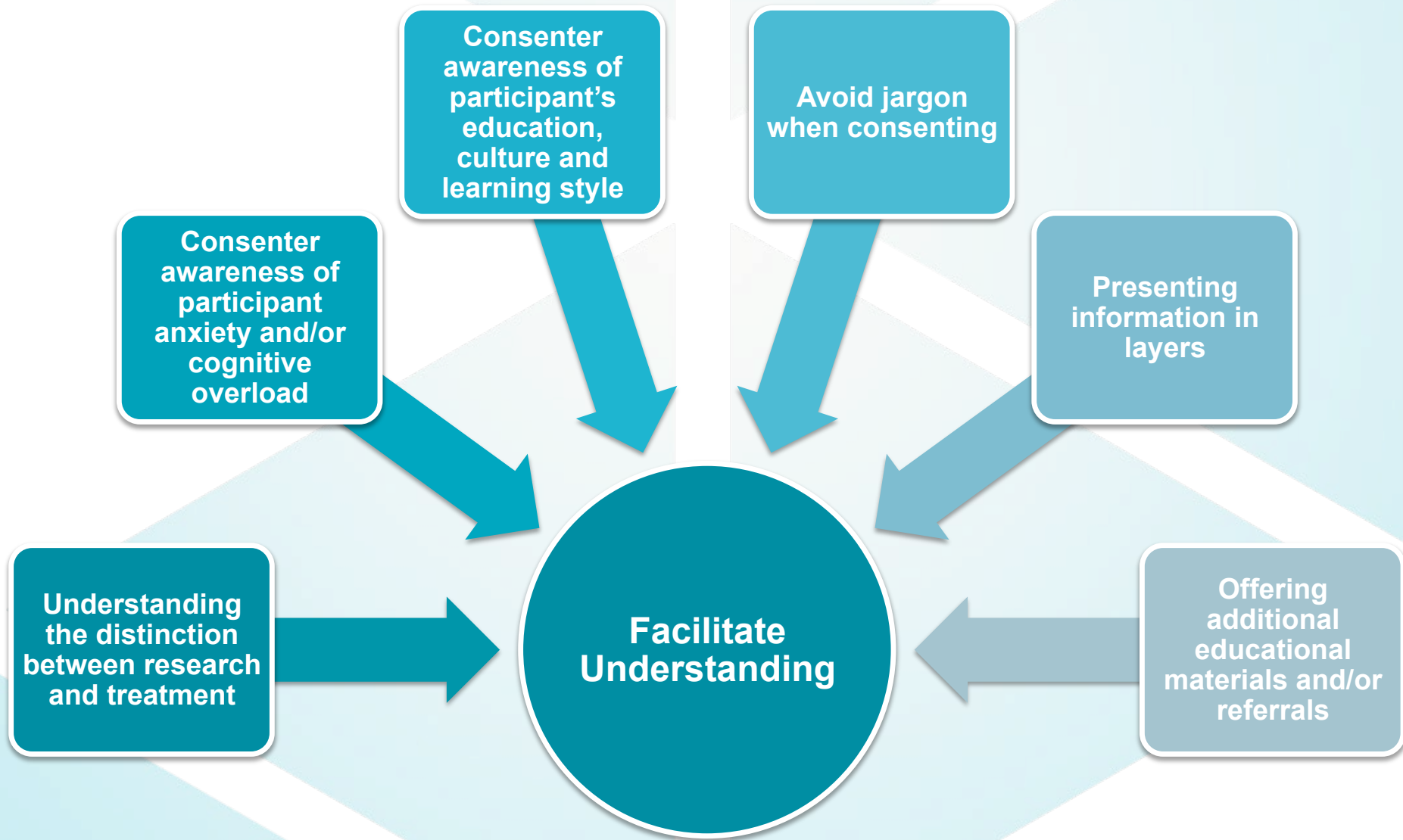
# Where is the Informed Consent Process Conducted?

- ▶ When possible, in a nonthreatening, safe setting that reduces any feeling of coercion
- ▶ In the best possible location to protect a participant's privacy
- ▶ Specifically:
  - Try to avoid
    - waiting rooms
    - or locations where a participant is not fully dressed

# How is participant understanding facilitated?

- Use consent document as an outline
- Interactive discussion with participant
- If possible, a multimedia approach, such as tablets or internet access with visual aids, study calendars





# How is understanding evaluated?

- ▶ Participant should explain in their own words what they understand about the study
- ▶ Teach-back method
- ▶ Ask participant open-ended questions

# How is informed consent documented?

- ▶ Participant must sign and date the ICD
- ▶ Assure that optional areas have been signed, as needed
- ▶ Consenter signs and dates the consent document

# Informed Consent Checklist

- ▶ Tool that may be used to document the consent process for each participant
- ▶ Can be reviewed before the process begins to serve as a reminder of what the process entails

**(✓) I have considered:**

Notes:

A private, nonthreatening place to hold the informed consent discussion

Inclusion of family/friends in the informed consent discussion, as desired by the research participant

The research participant's individual needs and geared my discussion to match them

- Language facility
- Education level
- Health literacy
- Interest in learning as much as possible
- Comfort with numbers/probabilities

Providing the research participant with ample time to review the informed consent document and ask questions as needed



**(✓) The following items have been described to the research participant:**

**Note  
s:**

- Purpose of the research
- Research procedures, including those that are experimental, relative to visits required for standard care
- Duration of participation
- Reasonably foreseeable risks/discomforts
- Benefits to participants and others
- Compensation for research-related injury
- Additional costs to the subject for participation, compared to standard of care
- Voluntary nature of participation
- Available alternative treatments
- Whom to contact with questions/concerns
- Number of trial participants (if required)
- Reasons for terminating participation by research team (if required)
- Consequences of subject withdrawal (if required)

- Statement that participants will be updated throughout the process (if required)

**(✓) I have:**

**Notes:**

Answered all of the research participant's questions before the document is signed

Evaluated the research participant's understanding of the information discussed

Provided the research participant with a signed copy of the informed consent document, and a copy of the detailed reference section

# Informed Consent Process Work Group

- ▶ Jane Perlmutter (Patient Advocate)
- ▶ Jayvant Heera (Pfizer, Inc.)
- ▶ Hallie Kassan (North Shore-LIJ Health System)
- ▶ Steve Mikita (Patient Advocate)
- ▶ Linda Morgan (Patient Advocate)

# Thank you.



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# Panel Discussion

## Helen Donnelly

- Clinical Research Nurse, Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Northwestern University

## Linda Neuhauser

- Clinical Professor, Community Health and Human Development, University of California - Berkeley

## Kevin Prohaska

- Office of Good Clinical Practice, Food & Drug Administration