SUBJECT INFORMATION SHEET

Hello,

I am Doctor JO Opolot from the University of Witwatersrand Medical School and I am inviting you to participate in a research project to study the levels of various chemicals in the blood in patients with tuberculosis (“TB”).

Why are we doing this?

Worldwide there has been a resurgence of TB, particularly in the developing countries like South Africa. The mortality and morbidity associated with this infection still remains very high. I am investigating the levels of certain chemicals in the blood of patients with TB. These chemicals may be associated with an increased mortality and morbidity. The chemicals in your blood that I would like to measure are vitamin C, cortisol, epinephrine, norepinephrine, dopamine, ferritin and CRP.

What do we expect from you?

Your blood will be drawn by me or my assistant. I shall take 15ml of blood (about 3 teaspoonfuls of blood) from a suitable peripheral vein. This blood will be taken once only. I shall then test the blood samples to determine whether or not the blood levels of these chemicals are relevant in TB infection. Your name will not appear on any of the samples or on any publications. Therefore, your total anonymity is guaranteed. You can also be assured that your blood will not be used for any other experiment besides this TB project.
May I withdraw from this study?

Participation in the study is completely voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time without providing any reasons and this will not affect your treatment in any way.

Why should I participate in this study?

Although you might not personally benefit from this study, the knowledge accumulated through testing your blood may prove advantageous to others. You are encouraged to ask any questions that you might have in connection with this study at any time. I or my assistant will gladly answer your questions.

If you are happy to take part in the study, please read and sign the attached consent form.

Thank you

Dr JO Opolot

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