



HOW TO HELP PARTICIPANTS BETTER UNDERSTAND THE RESEARCH THROUGH CONSENT

The LSU's Pennington IRB recommends that the reading level of the informed consent document should be no higher than an 8th grade level. The IRB recognizes that some consent forms are of such a technical nature that it may not be possible to keep to an 8th grade reading level. To test the level and clarity of the consent form, we suggest that investigators read the form out loud to colleagues/staff and use the tools below to check grade level. Investigators may call the HRPP Office to discuss ways of trying to keep consent text at a low reading level.

Informed Consent Language/Readability Tools:

Louisiana Clinical & Translational Science Center (LA CaTS) offers an Informed Consent Toolkit on their website:

<https://lacats.pbrc.edu/key-components/health-literacy-core/tools/>

Helpful websites you can use to obtain readability statistic measurements for your consent form language

<http://www.webpagefx.com/tools/read-able/>

<http://www.thewriter.com/what-we-think/readability-checker/>

https://www.nccn.org/clinical_trials/informed_consent.aspx

Reference:

Pandya A. Readability and Comprehensibility of Informed Consent Forms for Clinical Trials. *Perspectives in Clinical Research*. 2010;1(3):98-100.