

Improving the guidelines for informed consent, including vulnerable populations, under a gender perspective





Informed Consent is a key aspect in the decision process to participate in a study. During the Informed Consent process participants learn the most relevant aspects of the study and accept to participate in it or not. At present, most of Informed Consent documents are complex, difficult to understand and drafted without the participant's perspective. There is a need to improve the informed consent process through the implementation of innovative proposals tailored to participants' needs and exploring ICT tools, such as videos, comics and apps.

i-CONSENT understands informed consent as a bidirectional communication process that begins with the first contact with the potential participant and continues throughout the entire study until its end. The project is developing a series of strategies for the creation of an updated and inclusive informed consent process. This new perspective will empower the participant to voluntarily decide whether to participate in the study and facilitate and improve his/her autonomy in decision making and foster a personalised approach to researcher-participant communication.

The project consortium includes 7 partners from 4 countries including academia, research centres, industry, patient organizations and small and medium-sized enterprises. The nature of the consortium allows including the perspectives of all interested parties in the informed consent process in the project's perspective.

## **Stakeholders** Outcomes **i-CONSENT** involves its stakeholders in the project's outcomes to ensure their participation and point of view in the process. Workshops **Guidelines** Develop, validate and Meetings and interaction Clinical Investigators Pharmaceutical Industry with stakeholders to assess publish guidelines to **Ethical Advisory Boards** Policy Makers **Publications Innovative Resources** Patient Organisations Production of scientific facilitate the understanding publications and contents of IC using digital tools.

## **Ethical Advisory Boards**

Informed Consent is an ethical concept that has become integral to contemporary medical ethics and medical practice. **i-CONSENT** will foster a new approach to the praxis of informed consent to secure the best interests of the patients and society as a whole. The project's research results will assist the Ethical Advisory Boards in the maintainance of ethics awareness and the establishment of core values for ethical practice.

**i-CONSENT** will promote a framework that will increase improve participation in clinical trials and raise awareness of the importance of comprehension and autonomy within this process with special attention on age, gender, cultural background and vulnerability factors.















