

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Project title: Deciphering the Morphological Correlation Between Stature and External Ear: An investigative approach in the field of Forensic Science

Sponsor Name: nil

Language: English

Principal Investigator: M Shama das

Designation: MSc Student Department of Forensic medicine and toxicology.

Mobile number: 814725395

Please read this form carefully. If you don't understand the language or any information in this document, please discuss it with PI. Your participation in this study is voluntary, and you can enquire about all details before giving your written consent to participate in this study.

1. Introduction to the research study:

You are invited to participate in this study / research because you don't have any deformities in your external ear.

2. Purpose of the study:

To identify the stature of the individual from morphological variations of external ear.

3. Who can take part?

Male of age group 18-60 years, healthy subjects with no ear deformities.

4. Information about the study (as a whole):

The study involves measurements of morphological features of external ear and stature from 385 individuals of 18-60 years age and only males.

5. What will happen to you (the individual participant) during the study?

The measurements of the subject's external ear namely ear length, ear width, lobule length, lobule width along with the stature will be measured. The age and sex of the subject is also noted.

6. Your (the individual participant) role/responsibility in the study:

Provide accurate information whenever asked. Follow the investigators instruction. If you want to discontinue from the study, study PI to be informed.

7. What is the risk: Minimal

8. What are the potential benefits of participating in the study:

You may not get any benefit from participating in this study. If you take part in this study you may help with contributing to the knowledge.

9. What are the alternative treatments available?

This study does not involve any intervention/ influence your treatment. Hence this section is not applicable. (Note: If you feel that your observation/ additional evaluation might influence treatment indirectly, then mention the same and indicate that the alternative is to not participate).

10. Cost of participating in the study:

No Additional costs for participating in the study. If study involves indirect costs like – measuring tape etc. for examination, those will be borne by the investigator.

11. Compensation for injury: NIL (No risk is estimated during the study)

12. Confidentiality of information:

Information from the study records including your name, address, medical records, results of tests, study results will be kept confidential and will be reviewed only by authorized personnel from the sponsor or their representative, Ethics Committee or regulatory bodies. The data will not be made available to another individual unless you specifically give permission in writing. Information and results from this study may be presented at meetings or published in journals without including your name and personal identifications. No reference will be made in oral or written reports which could link you to the study.

13. New information about the study:

Any new information available during the course of the study will be informed to you if it has relevance to your decision regarding continuing in the study. Results of your participation will be disclosed to you if you indicate your desire for it.

14. Voluntary participation:

Your participation in this study is voluntary; you may decline your participation at any time and you need not give any reason for the same, and such withdrawal shall be without penalty and without loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. If you withdraw from the study prior to its completion, you will receive the usual standard of care and your non participation will not have any adverse effects on your subsequent medical treatment or relationship with the treating physician.

15. Whom to contact in case of any questions:

If you experience adverse effects as a result of participating in this study, you may contact the Principal Investigator M Shama das as detailed above.

If you have any questions about the informed consent process or your rights as a participant, you may contact the Member Secretary of the Kasturba Medical College and Kasturba Hospital - Institutional Ethics Committee at Room 22, Ground floor, KMC Faculty Rooms, adjacent to KMC Administrative Block, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal - 576104. Phone: 0820 29 33522. Timings: 9: 00 AM to 5: 00 PM.

If you have any questions about this form or any study related issue, you may also contact the following person. Name: Dr Vikram Palimar Professor and Head , Address: Department of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology, KMC, Telephone number -9886340969