INFORMATION Sheet FOR ASSENTING OR CONSENTING CHILDREN/adolescents

**Study title: Evaluating the use of a novel, low-cost tool to identify stunting in adolescents in Lilongwe, Malawi.**

Introduction

Stunting occurs when somebody is short for his/her age. Over 40% of children in Malawi are stunted. In this project, we are testing a new tool to help us pick out stunted children and adolescents in the community. This is important to help us find better treatments for stunting and to teach people about the importance of stunting.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information!

what is this research for?

We are doing a research project to find out more about stunting in Malawi. We have created a new wall chart and want to see how good it is for identifying stunting. We would like to invite you to take part in this research project.

Why AM I being asked to take part?

Any child who is not acutely ill or disabled is being asked to take part in this study. We are hoping to recruit at least 300 children for this study

what will happen to ME?

PART 1

We will measure your height using two methods:

1. Stunting chart (wall chart)
2. Height measuring board.

This will take about 10 minutes, as there might be some waiting time before and between measurements. The height measurements collected are strictly confidential and will not affect you in any way.

PART 2

We will ask you to fill in a short survey to find out what you think about the two measurement methods. The questionnaire will also ask you about what you know about stunting and what you think about it. Any information shared with us will be strictly confidential.

what impact will the study have on MY CHILD?

RISKS

There are no risks in taking part.

BENEFITS

You will be part of a study that will help us to pick out stunted children and adolescents in Malawi. From taking part in this study, you will learn more about the problem of stunting in Malawi.

WHO WILL hAVE ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION YOU COLLECT ABOUT ME?

Any information that is collected will only be seen by members of the research team. All information will be stored securely. This means that whenever we write or talk about any information collected, we never use your name. The only information that we may have to pass on is if you tell us about risk of serious harm (eg. serious physical harm). Even if this happens, we will only tell someone else after having talked to you about it first.

WHAT WILL THE RESULTS BE USED FOR

The findings from this study will be reported to a wide range of people, including health workers in Malawi.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON’T WANT TO TAKE PART?

You should only take part if you want to; choosing whether or not to take part will not disadvantage you in any way. Before deciding whether to take part, it is important for you to understand what the project involves. Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you want more information.

WHO CaN I GO TO FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS?

If you have any questions or opinions about this study, please contact:

**Primary Investigator:**

**Pannapat Chanyarungrojn**

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c/o Dr Marko Kerac; email: marko.kerac@lshtm.ac.uk

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**Ethics Committee:**

**COMREC (College of Medicine Research and Ethics Committee)**

* College of Medicine, University of Malawi 3rd Floor - John Chiphangwi Learning Resource Centre, Private Bag 360, Chichiri, Blantyre 3, Malawi; Contact number: 01871911

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| This study has been approved by the Ethics Committee [Project ID Number]: | COMREC P.06/16/1955 |