**ISARIC/WHO Clinical Characterisation Protocol for Severe Emerging Infections**

**INFORMATION SHEET FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGE 12 TO 16 YEARS OLD**

**WITH VIRAL HAEMORHAGIC FEVER INFECTION**

The International Severe Acute Respiratory and Emerging Infection Consortium (ISARIC) in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) are undertaking a research study involving people with severe infections including the Viral Haemorrhagic Fever ebolavirus. This is why we have approached you and we are inviting you to take part in this study.

Before deciding if you want to be involved, it is important for you to understand why this research is being done and what it would involve for you. One of our team will go through the information with you. Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear, or if you would like more information

**What is the study about?**

* Infectious diseases affect millions of people around the world every year.
* New infections appear. Most cases are mild, but some people become very unwell.
* There is a lot that we do not understand about these new infections.
* By understanding why young people like you are unwell we can try to find better ways to manage and treat people in the future.

**Do I have to take part?**

* It is up to you and your parents/guardians to decide if you should be involved in helping us.
* If you don’t want to be involved, then you don’t have to.
* Either way, your decision will not affect your care and treatments in any way.
* **The choice is yours.**

**What will happen if I take part in this study?**

We will collect information from your clinical records when you are in hospital, including medication taken and laboratory results. We may collect samples that are extra to what would normally be collected for your normal care in hospital. On some days we will take extra blood for research.

The amount of blood will be small and will depend on your weight so that we only take a safe amount. The study staff can tell you how much blood will be taken at each visit. You will never have additional venesection (blood draw) taken for research while you are in isolation

These extra blood samples will be taken at the same time as regular samples to reduce the extra procedures.

We will take the same sample every other day for two weeks and then every week for as long as you are unwell up to a maximum of 100 days.

If there are any leftovers from other samples taken for your regular care, we will store these leftovers for this research.

When you have recovered we will also ask you to return to a hospital or clinic in 3 months and 6 months to have a blood sample taken.

**What will happen to my information?**

All information about you will be kept private and confidential. Only the people responsible for your care and for this study will know that you were involved in this study. If you agree, we will also store your data and use it for future approved related medical research. The data collected during this study at any time may be seen and shared with public health agencies.

**What will happen to my samples?**

We will use your blood samples to look at how your body fights the infection and how the treatment given works in your body. We will also examine your DNA together with the DNA from many other people to try to find out what makes some people more likely to get severe infection. Some of the tests may be done in different countries.

If you agree, we will also keep samples, for possible future use in other related medical research. This will only be done as a properly approved study. The samples collected during this study may be seen and shared with public health agencies.

**Are there any benefits to taking part in this study?**

There are no benefits for you personally. By helping us find out more about why you are ill, we will be able to help look after young people better in the future.

**What are the risks of being in the study?**

If only clinical data is collected there is a minimum risk, all information will be used anonymously (no one will know your name). If samples are taken there is a small risk of pain or irritation when blood samples are taken.