**Required Elements of Informed Consent**

The consent form should address the following in a comprehensive manner:

- **Research purpose and procedures**
  - A statement that the study involves research, an explanation of the purposes of the research and the expected duration of the subject’s participation, a description of the procedures to be followed, and identification of any procedures which are experimental.

- **Risks and discomforts**
  - A description of any reasonably foreseeable risks or discomforts to the subject.

- **Potential benefits**
  - A description of any benefits to the subject or to others, which may reasonably be expected from the research.

- **Alternative procedures**
  - A disclosure of appropriate alternative procedures or courses of treatment, if any, which might be advantageous to the subject.

- **Provisions for confidentiality**
  - A statement describing the extent, if any, to which confidentiality of records identifying the subject will be maintained.

- **Management of injury**
  - For research involving more than minimal risk, an explanation as to whether any compensation and an explanation as to whether any medical treatments are available if injury occurs and, if so, what they consist of, or where further information may be obtained.

- **Contacts for additional information**
  - An explanation of whom to contact for answers to pertinent questions about the research and research subjects’ rights and whom to contact in the event of a research-related injury to the subject.

- **Voluntary participation and the right to discontinue without penalty**
  - A statement that participation is voluntary, refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled, and the subject may discontinue participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled.

Source: 45 CFR 46.116
**Additional Elements of Informed Consent (When Appropriate)**

These additional elements may be appropriate in certain circumstances:

- **Unforeseen risks**
  - A statement that the particular treatment or procedure may involve risks to the subject (or embryo or fetus, if the subject is or may become pregnant), which are currently unforeseeable.

- **Participation Termination**
  - Anticipated circumstances under which the subject’s participation may be terminated by the investigator without regard to the subject’s consent.

- **Additional participation costs**
  - Any additional costs to the subject that may result from participation in the research.

- **Withdrawal consequences**
  - The consequences of a subject’s decision to withdraw from the research and procedures for orderly termination of participation by the subject.

- **New findings statement**
  - A statement that significant new findings developed during the course of the research which may relate to the subject’s willingness to continue participation will be provided to the subject.

- **Subject number**
  - The approximate number of subjects involved in the study.

Source: 45 CFR 46.116