Prospective research participants should be presented with information that is understandable and designed to support their autonomy in clinical research.

Health Literacy is Two-Sided:

1) A person’s ability to understand and use information to make health-related decisions, and
2) The communicator’s ability to present information in a way that fosters understanding and self-determination.

Health Literacy Includes:

- Reading and writing skills
- Listening and verbal communication skills
- Numeracy/Computation skills
- Interpretation and evaluation of risk
- Appropriate visualization

Health Literacy Supports the Participant’s Journey through the Clinical Trial Lifecycle

- Public awareness of, education about, and access to clinical research
- Targeted, relevant written and verbal invitations to join research
- Clear written and verbal communications about research participation
- Clear information about research procedures and data collection
- Plain language summaries, results reports, and research publications

There are many reasons why health literacy should be integrated into clinical trials

**Ethics**
- Respect for Persons
- Justice
- Beneficence
- Equitable access to research
- A right to understand

**Science and Business**
- Generalizability
- Proper Adherence and Follow-Up
- Data Validity
- Potential Reduction in Liability
- Potential Cost Savings

www.MRCTCenter.org  email: MRCT@bwh.harvard.edu
HEALTH LITERACY AT THE MRCT CENTER

What Have We Accomplished?

The MRCT Center convened a workgroup of diverse stakeholders, including industry, foundations, academia, patient advocates, non-profits and government representatives to advance the adoption of health literacy principles in clinical research.

The MRCT Center is hosting workgroup conference calls, managing between-meeting assignments and separate work streams, as needed, and creating specific, tailored health literacy tools and resources.

In response to evolving technology, and as a result of workgroup efforts, we are piloting the delivery platform of this project as an online, user-friendly, interactive microsite, housed within the MRCT Center website. The microsite will feature tools that can be used in all areas of the clinical trial life cycle, and resources tailored for various stakeholder groups including, most importantly, research participants. The microsite itself will be a model of health literate communication.

What’s Next?

Content Finalization → User Testing → Dissemination → Evaluation & Improvement

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