Appendix 1: Information sheet for the adult participant

STUDY TITLE: Occupational Therapy Approach to Sexuality in People with Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) in Subacute Stage

The purpose of this document is to provide you with information about a research study in which you are invited to participate. This study was approved by the Research Ethics Committee of Galicia.

If you choose to participate, you will receive personalized information from the researcher. Read this document first and ask any questions you need to help you understand the details. If you wish, you can take the document away, consult with others, and take time to decide whether or not to participate.

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may decide not to participate or, if you agree to do so, change your mind by withdrawing consent at any time without obligation to provide explanations. We assure you that this decision will not affect your relationship with your doctor or the health care that you have. This is your right.

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of this study is to determine whether occupational therapy intervention in sexuality is relevant for people who have suffered acquired brain injury and their families and/or partners. We want to gather perspectives from ABI sufferers and their families about sexual activity in order to find out whether for them it is considered a priority in the subacute stage of the recovery process or if they think that, on the contrary, it should not be subject to intervention or intervention should be done later in a more chronic phase.

Why are you being asked to participate?

You are invited to participate because you meet the selection criteria of this study. That is, you are over the age of 18, have been diagnosed with acquired brain damage, or you are a relative or partner of a person with this diagnosis. In addition, you have been attending occupational therapy at the neurology service of the Rehabilitation Unit of the Maritime Hospital for a minimum of two months.

What will my participation entail?

Your participation will consist of participating in an interview on the subject of the study with the researcher. In order to be able to carry out this interview, it is necessary that you give your full authorization. This interview will be recorded in audio format. After each interview, these will be transcribed immediately in a coded manner and stored under lock and key, guaranteeing maximum confidentiality at all times. The recordings will be destroyed immediately upon transcription. After this interview you will not be contacted again. Your participation will have an estimated total duration of one and a half hours.

What inconveniences will be involved in my participation?

The only potential inconvenience you may suffer from your participation in this study is the amount of time you will spend being interviewed.

Will I get any benefit from participating?

It is not expected that you will directly benefit from participating in the study. The research aims to uncover unknown or unclear aspects of the occupational therapy approach to sexuality in people with acquired subacute brain damage. This information may be useful to others in the future.

Will I get the information from the study?

If you if you wish, you will be provided with a summary of the results of the study.

Will the results of this study be published?

The results of this study will be sent to scientific publications for dissemination, but no data that may lead to the identification of participants will be transmitted.

How will the confidentiality of my data be protected?

The processing, communication, and transfer of your data will be in accordance with the provisions of Organic Law 3/2018, of 5 December, on the protection of personal data. At all times, you may access, oppose, correct, or cancel your data, by request to the researcher .

In addition, following the Order SSI / 81/2017, of 19 January, which publishes the Agreement of the Commission of Human Resources of the National Health System, in order to assure and protect the right to privacy of the patient, the researcher will not be able to access your personal data or participate in your recruitment for the present research.

The coded data (which does not contain any personal information) will be transferred to the facilities of the Maritime Hospital for further analysis.

Only the research team and the health authorities, who have a duty to maintain confidentiality, will have access to all coded data collected by the study. Information that cannot be identified can be transmitted to third parties. In case any information is transmitted to other countries, it will be carried out with a level of data protection equivalent to at least the one required by the regulations of our country.

Your data will be collected and stored until the end of the study in a coded format. This means that the records have a code which allows the research team to know who the records belong to (without personal or clinical information).

In addition, upon completion of the study, all coded transcripts of the interviews conducted, as well as any field notes that the researchers collect, will be destroyed in order to ensure the protection of the data collected.

Are there economic interests in this study?

This research is not sponsored by any organization or entity.

The researcher will not receive specific remuneration for their work on this study.

You will not be paid for participating. Commercial or patented products may be derived from the results of the study. In this case, you will not participate in the financial benefits arising.

How can you contact this study's research team ?

To contact the main researcher, you can use the telephone number XXXX or the email XXXXXX.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Appendix 2: Consent document for participation in a research study

Title of the study: Occupational Therapy Approach to Sexuality in People with Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) in Subacute Stage

I, _____,

- read the information sheet for the study participant mentioned above that was given to me. I was able to talk to the researcher and ask any questions I wished to about the study.
- understand that my participation is voluntary, and that I can withdraw from the study at any time, without having to give explanations and without this impacting on my medical care.
- agree to the use of my data under the conditions detailed in the information sheet for the participant.
- freely give my consent to participate in this study.

Signature: _____

The participant

Signature: _____

The researcher requesting consent