**Informed Consent for Telemedicine Consultations**

**What am I consenting to?**

This consent process is intended to inform you of the role of telemedicine consultations including the potential benefits and risks so that you are in a position to give or withhold your permission to partake.

A “*telemedicine consultation*” is a consultation between you and a member of the clinical team at Marymount University Hospital & Hospice that takes place by phone or video-call instead of a face-to-face consultation in the hospice, hospital or your home. A video-call is where two or more people talk and see each other by video on their phone, laptop or computer. Consultation purposes include clinical assessment (for acute and chronic conditions), monitoring / management of healthcare conditions and well-being, provision of advice or support, and/or treatment planning.

**What are the general principles?**

* A telemedicine consultation should only be used for tasks that are clinically appropriate and technically feasible for delivery through this medium and do not compromise your care.
* You should receive (or be directed to) verbal, written or digital material advising how to prepare for the consultation and what to expect.
* Telemedicine consultations are initiated and delivered by the healthcare provider from Marymount University Hospital and Hospice (consultant, non-consultant hospital doctor, clinical nurse specialist, health and social care professional).
* Your participation in any telemedicine consultation is entirely voluntary and you can discontinue the consultation at any time, including in the middle of a consultation. Choosing to discontinue the consultation will not affect your right to future care or treatment.
* The healthcare professional has the right to terminate the consultation at any point if required.
* The same principles and regulations guiding patient-confidentiality that apply to in-person consultations also apply to telemedicine consultations.
* Telemedicine consultations are not audio-recorded but clinical notes are taken as per normal consultation and retained in your healthcare record.

**What are the potential benefits of telemedicine?**

* Maintains and possibly expands your access to specialist palliative care consultations.
* Convenient
* Saves cost of travel to appointments.
* Reduces your risk of exposure to infections including covid-19.
* If you are self-isolating you can still access non-urgent care that might otherwise be delayed.
* Allows for the inclusion of several healthcare professionals in the consultation if needed.
* Allows for the inclusion of family members, including those abroad, in the consultation if needed.
* Allows for you to see your healthcare professionals face unmasked.

**What are the potential risks of telemedicine?**

* Potential risks of telemedicine include, but are not limited to, interruptions, technical difficulties and unauthorised access.
* Marymount University Hospital & Hospice uses systems that meet recommended standards to protect the privacy and security of video consultations and that are endorsed by the Health Service Executive (HSE). However, Marymount University Hospital & Hospice cannot guarantee total protection against hacking or tapping into the video consultation by outsiders. The risk is small but it does exist.
* Information gained by telemedicine may be insufficient to allow for medical decisions to be made. Further assessment may be required. This could include a follow-up face-to-face visit, a second video consultation or advice to attend another healthcare professional such as your GP. Delays in medical evaluation and treatment may, therefore, occur.

**Consent:**

By consenting you are acknowledging that you have read / heard the aforementioned information on the role, risks and benefits of telemedicine consultations and agree to partake. YES NO

The consultation will be conducted via

Attend Anywhere

Microsoft Teams

WhatsApp

Telephone

Healthcare Professional Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: / /