

## 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Clinical Ethics Consultation Series

### Title: Health Professional's knowledge and perception about Informed Consent in a Cuban Hospital

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#### **Abstract**

**Introduction:** Informed Consent (IC) is a critical process in research involving human beings, however, knowledge limitations widely and frequently identified through out the world results in conflicts that affect subject in research and health professionals. Those limitations are also recognized but not well documented in Cuba and at Faustino Pérez Hernández Hospital Matanzas city- Matanzas province, Cuba. **Objective.** To determinate the perception and knowledge of health professionals to accomplish and to apply the IC process as a key point before any procedure or therapeutic action that take place at the hospital. **Methodology.** A questionnaire was designed and was applied to 100 health professionals of the centre in a quiet and friendly environment. All participants were allowed and stimulated to expose their consideration about the topic under investigation. We also randomly evaluated the quality of informed consents signed in 30 clinical charts from hospitalized patients and asked about the application/perception of the process among 10 physicians and 10 subjects from the outdoor clinics of the hospital. **Results.** More than a half of the professionals included neither evidenced knowledge about the key elements of the IC nor applied it because they considered that process as a waste of time. Most of them also identified the consent only as important in special situations like when they were conducting a clinical trial. **Conclusion.** Considering the limitations identified it was proposed an educational intervention and a continuing educational program about IC and bioethics addressed to all health professionals of the centre and to the political leaders of the community.

To be presented in **Posters sessions.**

If I can go... Oral Presentation