**ANNEXURE –A**

**Letter for Ethical Approval**

**MAHARISHI MARKANDESHWAR UNIVERSITY, MULLANA, AMBALA**

*Communication of Decision of the Ethics Committee (IEC)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project No: IEC-244</th>
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<th>Project title:</th>
<th>Phenomenological study of lived in experiences of childless women.</th>
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<th>Principal Investigator:</th>
<th>Poonam Sheoran</th>
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<tr>
<th>Name of Institution:</th>
<th>MMCN, Mullana (Ambala)</th>
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<tr>
<th>New review</th>
<th>Revised review</th>
<th>Expedited review</th>
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<th>Date of review (D/M/Y):</th>
<th>13/08/2013</th>
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<th>Date of previous review, if revised application:</th>
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<th>Recommended</th>
<th>Recommended with suggestions</th>
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<th>Revision</th>
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<th>Remarks:</th>
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<th>Recommended for a period of:</th>
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Please note:
- Inform EC immediately in case of any adverse events and serious adverse events.
- Inform EC in case of any change of study procedure, site and investigator
- This permission is only for period mentioned above. Annual report to be submitted to EC.
- Members of EC have right to monitor the trial with prior intimation.

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Signature of Member Secretary  
Ethics Committee  
M.M University
ANNEXURE – B

Letter Seeking Permission to Conduct Pilot Study

MAHARISHI MARKANDESHWAR UNIVERSITY
M.M. COLLEGE OF NURSING
MULLANA, AMBALA
Ph: 01731 - 304882

Ref. No. MMM/N/PD/37/7395
Date: 24/10/13

To
Dr. Ayotri Gupta
Infertility Specialist
Amrit IVF Center
Karnal.

Sub: Permission for the Conduction of pilot study of Research Project

Dear Madam,

This is to introduce Ms. Poonam Sheoran, Ph.D scholar of our university, who is to conduct a research project which is to be submitted to Maharishi Markandeshwar University in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Nursing.

Topic : Phenomenological study of lived experiences of childless women.

The said student is in need of your esteemed help and cooperation as she is interested in conducting her pilot study in your institute.

I am to request you to kindly extend necessary facilities to her in your institution to work on the proposed study during the month of October 2013.

Further information in this regard, if required, will be furnished by the student personally.

Yours Faithfully,

Dr. (Mrs) Pratibha Sarin
Principal
M.M. College of Nursing
M.M. Markandeshwar University
Mullana, Ambala
ANNEXURE – C

Letter Granting Permission for conduct of Pilot Study

To,
Dr. Jyoti Sarin
Director- Principal
M.M. College of Nursing

Sub: Permission to conduct pilot study

Respected Madam,

This is with reference to your letter number MMCN/PO/13/1729 – A Dated 24.10.2013, I am pleased to inform you that Mrs. Poonam Sheoran, Ph.D scholar of your college is hereby permitted to conduct her pilot study at our hospital in the month of October 2013 on topic:

“Phenomenological study of lived experiences of childless women.”

She can contact undersigned for any query and instructions at our IVF clinic on any day during OPD timings i.e. 10.00am to 2.00pm.

Thanking you.

Your’s faithfully,

Dr. Jyoti Gupta

Amrit IVF Clinic
HOSPITAL AMRITDHARA
CHAURA BAZAR, KARNAL

C.C. Mrs. Poonam Sheoran, Ph.D scholar, M.M. University
ANNEXURE – D

Letter Seeking Permission to Conduct Final Study

MAHARISHI MARKANDESHWAR UNIVERSITY
M.M. COLLEGE OF NURSING
MULLANA, AMBALA
Ph: 01731 - 304582

Ref. No. MMCN/PO/147-19
Date: 7/2/19

To
Dr. Jyoti Gupta
Infertility Specialist
Amrit IVF Center
Karnal.

Sub: Permission for the Conduction of Research Project

Dear Madam,

This is to introduce Ms. Poonam Sheoran, Ph.D scholar of our university, who is to conduct a research project which is to be submitted to Maharishi Markandeshwar University in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Nursing.

Topic: Phenomenological study of lived experiences of childless women.

The said student is in need of your esteemed help and cooperation as she is interested in conducting her study in your institute.

I am to request you to kindly extend necessary facilities to her in your institution to work on the proposed study during February – June 2014.

Further information in this regard, if required, will be furnished by the student personally.

Yours faithfully,

Dr. (Mrs) Jyoti Sarin
Principal
M.M. College of Nursing
Mullana – Ambala

Maharishi Markandeshwar University
Mullana, Ambala
ANNEXURE – E

Letter Granting Permission to Conduct Final Study

To,
Dr. Jyoti Sarin
Director- Principal
M.M. College of Nursing

Sub: Permission to conduct research study

Respected Madam,

This is with reference to your letter number MMCN/PO/14/39 –A Dated 07.02.2014. I am pleased to inform you that Mrs. Poonam Sheoran, Ph.D scholar of your college is hereby permitted to conduct her study at our hospital from February – June 2014 on topic:

“Phenomenological study of lived in experiences of childless women.”

She can contact undersigned for any query and instructions at our IVF clinic on any day during OPD timings i.e. 10.00am to 2:00pm.

Thanking you,

Your’s faithfully,

C.C.: Mrs. Poonam Sheoran, Ph.D scholar, M.M. University
Letter seeking Expert’s Opinion for Content Validity of Tool

To

____________________________
____________________________
____________________________

Sub: Validation of tool for Ph. D Dissertation.

Respected Madam/ Sir

I, Poonam Malik is pursuing my Ph.D (Nursing) from Maharishi Markandeshwar University, Mullana, Ambala. Topic approved by Departmental research Committee and Academic council of university for my dissertation is:

“Phenomenological Study of lived in experience of childless women at selected infertility clinics of Haryana.”

Qualitative research approach will be used using phenomenological research design. Childless women who will be coming to selected infertility clinics for artificial reproductive technique will be approached. After taking consent and explaining the purpose of study personal interview will be taken in the same setting. After every 5 -6 questions consent to continue will be taken from participant. Interview will continue only if participant agrees to do so. All interviews and discussions will be audiotaped.

I have prepared a personal interview guide to elicit experiences of childless women. (Enclosed with) kindly go through the content of tools and fill in the attached criteria and give your valuable suggestions.

Looking forward in an anticipation.

Sincerely Yours

Poonam Malik
Ph. D scholar
Maharishi Markandeshwar University
Mullana, Ambala.
ANNEXURE – G

List of Experts for Content Validity of Interview Guide

Dr. Gyan Singh
Infertility Clinic In charge
National Institute of Health and Family Welfare
Munirka, New Delhi
Sr. Kamlesh
Staff Nurse
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi

Dr. Jyoti Gupta
Infertility Specialist
Amrit IVF Clinic
AmritDhara Hospital
Karnal
Dr. Ratna Prakash
Principal
Paul College of Nursing & Medical Sciences
Uttrakhand

Mrs. Philomena
Lecturer
College of Nursing
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
Ansari nagar, New Delhi
Ms. Surinder Kaur
Medical Social Service Officer
IVF Center
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi

Sr. Poonam
Staff Nurse
IVF Center
All India Institute of Medical Sciences
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi
Consent Form

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**Title of study:** A phenomenological study to understand the lived in experience of childless women.

**Principal investigator:** Mrs. Poonam Malik

**Institute:** College of Nursing, Maharishi Markandeshwar University, Mullana.

**Introduction:**

I, Poonam Malik am doing a research regarding lived in experiences of childless women. I would like to understand how childless women lives through this experience in our society and how do they feel about it? Since you have come for treatment of same problem, I would like to invite you to join this research study.

**Background information:**

The World Health Organization (WHO) considers infertility to be a disease and the prevalence of infertility in women of reproductive age (15-49) is defined as a reproductive health indicator. In India, 13% of ever married women aged 15-49 years were childless in 1981 (rural 13.4 % and urban 11.3 %) which increased to 16 % in 2001 (rural 15.6% and urban 16.1%). Nearly 30 million couples in country suffer from infertility making the incidence rate almost 10 %. Eleven percent of married women aged 15-49 years in Haryana have infertility problem.

**Purpose of this research study**

Infertility exacts an enormous toll on both the affected individuals and on society. Couples in their most active and productive years are distracted by the physical, financial and emotional hardships of this disease. For these couples, infertility is more than a disease, it is a devastating life crisis which can greatly impact the couple's general health, marriage, family relationships, job performance and social interactions. Added to the emotional and physical toll exacted by infertility is the financial burden carried by some couples seeking treatment for their disease. Through this research I would like to understand how women live through this experience, what all they feel and how they survive through this in their day to day life. I also want to know more about local health practices because this knowledge will help to learn more about extent of infertility on couple.

**Procedure**
In this study I will ask few questions about your life experiences of being childless, different treatment modalities, coping strategies you have used. You and I will sit down in a comfortable place at the clinic ensuring privacy. I will seek your permission to start and continue the interview. We will continue only if wish to do so. If you are not comfortable to answer any of the questions, you may refuse to do so. Interview may take one to one and half hour. The entire interview will be tape recorded. The tape will be kept under lock and key with me.

**Possible risks or benefits**

There is no risk involved in this study except your valuable time. There is no direct benefit to you also. However, the results of the study may help us to formulate guidelines for teaching and training of health care professionals for management of childless couples.

**Right of refusal to participate and withdrawal**

You are free to choose to participate in the study. You may refuse to participate without any loss of benefit which you are otherwise entitled to. You will receive the same standard care and treatment which is considered best for you irrespective of your participation in the study. You may also withdraw any time from the study without any adverse effect on management of your treatment or any loss of benefit which you are otherwise entitled to. You may also refuse to answer some or all the questions if you don’t feel comfortable with those questions.

**Confidentiality**

The information provided by you will remain confidential. Nobody except principal investigator will have an access to it. Your name and identity will also not be disclosed at any time. However the data may be published in journal and elsewhere without giving your name or disclosing your identity.

**Available Sources of Information**

If you have any further questions you may contact Principal Investigator (Mrs Poonam Malik) at college of Nursing, Mullana, Ambala.( Mob. 09671717727)

**Authorization**

I have read and understand this consent form, and I volunteer to participate in this research study. I understand that I will receive a copy of this form. I voluntarily choose to participate, but I understand that my consent does not take away any legal rights in the case of negligence or other legal fault of anyone who is involved in this study.
Participant’s Name (Printed or Typed):
Date:

Participant’s Signature or thumb impression:
Date:

Principal Investigator’s Signature:
Date:
ANNEXURE – I

INTERVIEW GUIDE

PERSONAL SHEET

NOTE: Please ask following questions from the participants and fill in the required information.

Code No:___________________

1. Age: : ________________ Yrs
2. Education: : ______________
3. Occupation: : ______________
4. Age at marriage: : ________________ Yrs
5. Married since : ________________ Yrs.
6. Monthly family income: : Rs_______________/-
7. Any Medical insurance : Yes / No
   If Yes, Any benefit for infertility treatment from insurance : Yes / No
8. Religion : ______________
9. Place of residence : ______________
10. Type of family : Nuclear / Joint / Extended
11. Did you adopt any family planning method : Yes / NO
   If yes, please specify ________________
   For how long ________________ months / years
12. Came to know about infertility ________________ years ago.
13. Trying for conception since ________________ years.
14. Known cause of infertility : Male / Female / Mixed / Unknown
15. Taking ART since : ________________
16. No. of IUI Undergone : _______________(specify the no & years)
   1\textsuperscript{st} : _______________ years/months ago
   2\textsuperscript{nd} : _______________ Years / Months ago
   3\textsuperscript{rd} : _______________years / Months ago
   More : _______________ years/months ago

17. No. of IVF undergone : _______________ (specify the no & years)
   1\textsuperscript{st} : _______________ Years ago.
   2\textsuperscript{nd} : _______________ Years ago.
   3\textsuperscript{rd} : _______________ years ago.

18. Do you know any one who has infertility : Yes/No
    If yes, please specify the relationship: Relative / Friend / Neighbor / Colleague / chance acquaintance

19. Have you shared your problem with them : Yes / No

20. Do you think your problem is similar to theirs : Yes / No
PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Before starting the interview, the researcher will review the purpose of the interview as follows:

In this interview, I will be asking you a series of open ended questions about your experiences with childlessness. The main purpose of this interview is for you to talk about your childlessness experience. During the interview I will ask questions only to clarify your experience.

Once participant confirm her participation questions are put up as:

1. What practices did you adopt in an attempt to conceive and how was your experience related to it?
2. How did you feel when you came to know that you will not be able to conceive naturally?
3. What all Rx modalities did you adopt in an attempt to become pregnant and how was your experience after every treatment modality?
4. To what extent does your situation hinders you from moving ahead in life?
5. How do you feel “paying a price” for something which others get easily?
6. What feelings do you experience about being unable to conceive naturally and about being childless?
7. How did your family respond to your inability to conceive?
8. How kind the situation affect your relationship with your spouse?
9. What kind of support did you received from husband and family?
10. How does it feel to answer queries of family/friends/neighbor related to your inability to conceive and how do you respond to these queries?
11. What kind of social pressure have you experienced and how this has altered your social life?
12. Describe the role of religion in your life and how has it affected you in your situation?
13. How has infertility affected your day to day life?

14. How do you overcome of feeling of being unable to conceive?

15. How infertility has affected you as a person

16. How does this treatment with ART bothers you?

17. What is your opinion about donor egg and donor sperm use during IVF?

18. How does you feel about adoption?

19. Why is it necessary to be a mother?
ANNEXURE – J

Certificate of language Translation and Editing

ANNEXURE – J
CERTIFICATE

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

This is certified that the manuscript titled “Phenomenological study of lived-in experiences of childless women at selected infertility clinic” has been translated and edited for proper English language, grammar, spelling and overall style by Ms. Harneet Kaur.

Neither the research content nor the Author’s intentions were altered in any way during the editing process.

Harneet Kaur
MA (English)
Lecturer

Date: 23rd Oct, 201
ANNEXURE – J

Fr. Agnel Multipurpose School & Jr. College
AGNEL CHARITIES (AGNEL SEVA SANGH)
Sector 9A, Vashi, Navi Mumbai - 400703, India

Our Ref: 242-2016-17 | Date: 22/11/2016

ANNEXURE – J

LANGUAGE EDITING CERTIFICATE

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that the manuscript entitled “A Phenomenological Study of Childless Women’s Lived in Experience at Selected Infertility Clinic of Haryana” has been edited and formatted in English language, with grammar and spelling checks and over all structure and style by Mrs. Kranti Nitin Pednekar.

Neither the research content nor the author’s intentions / observations were altered in any way during the editing process.

Name: Mrs. Kranti Nitin Pednekar.

Designation: English Faculty,

Qualification: M.A. B. Ed.

Headmistress
Fr. Agnel M.S. School & Jr. College
Sector - 9A, Vashi, Navi Mumbai

Telephone: 27660711 / 27660712. Fax: 27660710. Email: agnelsnm@yahoo.co.in, office@agnehamara.net
Website: www.agnehamara.net