**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES RELATED TO RESEARCH ETHICS IN RESEARCHERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BUEA**

**Table 1a: Description of age**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Question | Characteristic | N | mean(SD) | Median | Range | IQR |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. | **Age** | 69 | 32.8(8.7) | 30 | 20-56 | 25-39 |
| 6b.  | **Years in research** | 81 | 5.9 (5.3) | 4 | 1-26 | 2-9 |

**Table 1b: Other demographic characteristics of respondents**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Question | Characteristic | Response | N | %  |
| 3. | Sex | Female | 25 | 27.5 |
|  |  | Male | 66 | 72.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. | Marital Status | Not married(single, divorced, widowed) | 43 | 46.7 |
|  |  | Married | 47 | 52.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 6a. | Highest degree | Below Bachelors | 2 | 2.2 |
|  |  | Bachelors | 25 | 27.5 |
|  |  | Masters | 40 | 44.0 |
|  |  | PhD | 24 | 26.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Table 2: Knowledge about research ethics**

| Question | Knowledge | Response | N | % |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 7. | Which of the following concerning participants are to be considered when conducting research? |  |  |  |
| 7a. | Reducing harm | No | 5 | 5.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 82 | 90.1 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 4.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7b. | Respecting autonomy | No | 3 | 3.3 |
|  |  | Yes | 81 | 89.0 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 7 | 7.7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7c. | Giving money to participants | No | 68 | 76.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 19 | 21.4 |
|  |  | Don’t Know | 2 | 2.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7d. | Protecting privacy | No | 3 | 3.3 |
|  |  | Yes | 88 | 96.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 0 | 0.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7e. | Oblige people to participate | No | 81 | 89.0 |
|  |  | Yes | 7 | 7.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 3 | 3.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 7f. | Treating people equally | No | 2 | 2.2 |
|  |  | Yes | 88 | 96.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 1 | 1.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. | How much information about the research should be given to participant before (s) he is enrolled in a study? | None | 1 | 1.1 |
|  |  | Only information (s)he asks for | 2 | 2.3 |
|  |  | Only information the researcher deems necessary | 7 | 8.0 |
|  |  | All relevant information  | 78 | 88.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. | Must a participant, who is alert and competent, consent to take part in a study? | No | 24 | 26.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 64 | 70.3 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 3 | 3.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. | Should the participant’s consent be documented? | No | 14 | 15.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 73 | 80.2 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 4.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. | Can participant consent be only verbal (ie with no written documentation)? | No | 62 | 68.1 |
|  |  | Yes | 23 | 25.3 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 6 | 6.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. | Can a participant who initially accepts to be part of study decide to withdraw from it at any time? | No | 7 | 7.7 |
|  |  | Yes | 81 | 89.0 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 3 | 3.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. | Can a researcher withdraw a participant from a study at any time? | No | 32 | 36.0 |
|  |  | Yes | 49 | 55.1 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 8 | 9.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 14. | Can a person give consent for another person (example deaf) to take part in a study? | No | 43 | 48.3 |
|  |  | Yes | 38 | 42.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 8 | 9.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. | In some circumstances, is it acceptable for participants names to be collected by the researcher? | No | 22 | 24.7 |
|  |  | Yes | 65 | 73.0 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 2 | 2.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. | Is it the researcher’s responsibility to protect all information collected from research participants? | No | 0 | 0.0 |
|  |  | Yes | 91 | 100.0 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 0 | 0.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. | Is a 19-year old person able to give consent to be part of a study, in Cameroon? | No | 25 | 27.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 58 | 63.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 8 | 8.8 |

**Table 3a: Attitudes towards research ethics**

| Question | Attitude | Response | N | % |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 18. | In your view, should a husband (or wife) be informed if his (or her) wife (or husband) is to take part in a study? | No | 37 | 41.6 |
|  |  | Yes | 45 | 50.6 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 7 | 7.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. | Should a person be able to give consent for another person to take part in a research? | No | 48 | 54.6 |
|  |  | Yes | 36 | 40.9 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 4.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. | Must a husband (or wife) give consent before his wife (or husband) can participate in a study? | No | 63 | 70.8 |
|  |  | Yes | 19 | 21.4 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 7 | 7.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 21. | If an unborn baby is to be included in a study, who should give consent for the unborn baby? | None | 3 | 3.5 |
|  |  | Father only | 2 | 2.3 |
|  |  | Mother only | 7 | 8.1 |
|  |  | Father and Mother | 72 | 82.8 |
|  |  | Other | 3 | 3.5 |
| 21a. | Other (specified) | One of parents | 1 |  |
| 22. | In your view, in research studies, should the names of participants be taken and recorded? | Never | 15 | 16.7 |
|  |  | Only when necessary | 65 | 72.2 |
|  |  | Always | 10 | 11.1 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 0 | 0.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 23. | In research studies, should the phone numbers of participants be taken and recorded? | Never | 13 | 14.4 |
|  |  | Only when necessary | 63 | 70.0 |
|  |  | Always | 13 | 14.4 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 1 | 1.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 24. | In your view, should children take part as participants in research? | Never | 12 | 13.5 |
|  |  | Only when necessary | 72 | 80.9 |
|  |  | Always | 4 | 4.5 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 1 | 1.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 25. | Should people who have experienced past trauma (ex. child abuse, sexual abuse ect) be invited to discuss these past events? | No | 18 | 20.0 |
|  |  | Yes | 57 | 63.3 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 15 | 16.7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 26. | Should participants receive any compensation for taking part in research? | No | 26 | 30.2 |
|  |  | Yes | 56 | 65.1 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 4.7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 27. | If YES to Q.26, what type of compensation should they receive | Monetary | 12 | 21.8 |
|  |  | Increased care | 35 | 63.6 |
|  |  | Physical gifts | 6 | 10.9 |
|  |  | Others | 2 | 3.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 28. | Should researchers be allowed to pay people to participate in a study they are not otherwise comfortable with? | No | 72 | 80.9 |
|  |  | Yes | 14 | 15.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 3 | 3.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 29. | Should participants accept to participate in research just because of the compensation associated with the research? | No | 82 | 92.1 |
|  |  | Yes | 7 | 7.9 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 0 | 0.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 31. | In your view, should participants be informed about incidental (unplanned) findings concerning them in a study? | No | 15 | 16.9 |
|  |  | Yes | 68 | 76.4 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 6 | 6.7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 32. | In your view, should a 15 year old child be able to give consent to be part of a study? | No | 27 | 30.7 |
|  |  | Yes | 55 | 62.5 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 6 | 6.8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 33. | In your view, should a 16-year old pregnant person be able to give consent to be part of a study? | No | 44 | 49.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 37 | 41.6 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 8 | 8.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 34. | If Yes to Q.33 should she need additional approval from someone else  | No | 16 | 31.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 31 | 60.8 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 7.8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 35. | If Yes to Q.34, who should the approval come from? |  |  |  |
| 35a. | 16-year old’s Father | No | 5 | 18.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 22 | 81.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 35b. | 16-year old’s Mother | No | 4 | 14.8 |
|  |  | Yes | 23 | 85.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 35c. | Father of unborn child | No | 5 | 18.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 22 | 81.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 35d. | Male partner who is not father of the unborn child | No | 17 | 77.3 |
|  |  | Yes | 5 | 22.7 |
| 35e. | Other : Guardian (4) Doctor (1) |  |  |  |
| 36. | To protect people who participate in research, committees are often created to oversee research in a particular setting. According to you, which of the following people should be included in the committee |  |  |  |
| 36a. | Traditional leaders | No | 17 | 20.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 66 | 80.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36b. | Spiritual leaders | No | 24 | 30.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 55 | 69.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36c. | Administrative authorities | No | 19 | 23.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 62 | 76.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36d. | Community representatives | No | 5 | 5.9 |
|  |  | Yes | 80 | 94.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36e. | Representatives of patients | No | 18 | 22.0 |
|  |  | Yes | 64 | 78.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36f. | Researchers | No | 5 | 5.9 |
|  |  | Yes | 80 | 94.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36g. | Research participants | No | 23 | 28.1 |
|  |  | Yes | 59 | 72.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36h. | Armed forces | No | 57 | 73.1 |
|  |  | Yes | 21 | 26.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 36i. | Lawyers or legal experts | No | 23 | 28.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 58 | 71.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 37. | Is there anyone else you should be in the committee?  |  |  |  |

**Table 3b: Attitudes towards research ethics 2**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Question | Attitude | N | Mean(SD) | Median | IQR | Range |
| 30. | If a participant was to be compensated for the time they spend in a study, in your opinion, how much should they receive for the following durations? |  |  |  |  |  |
| 30a. | Thirty minutes | 41 | 4,567(15,505) | 1,000 | 300-10,000 | 0-100,000 |
| 30b. | One hour | 40 | 16,488(78,552) | 2000 | 1,000-5,000 | 0-500,000 |
| 30c. | A whole day | 41 | 35,317 (154,952) | 5,000 | 5,000-30,000 | 0-100,000 |

**Table 4: Practices related to research ethics**

| Question | Practice | Response | N | % |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 38. | Have you ever been part of a research study?***[if NO, still answer the questions below based on the respondent’s experience of others’ participation in research]*** | No | 10 | 11.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 77 | 88.5 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 0 | 0.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 39. | In your experience which of the following have researchers been doing when carrying out research? |  |  |  |
| 39a. | Reducing harm to participants | No | 6 | 7.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 70 | 87.5 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 5.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 39b. | Respecting autonomy (independence) | No | 11 | 12.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 73 | 82.0 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 5 | 5.6 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 39c. | Giving money to participants | No | 52 | 58.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 30 | 33.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 7 | 7.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 39d. | Protecting privacy (secrets) | No | 12 | 13.3 |
|  |  | Yes | 74 | 82.2 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 4.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 39e. | Obliging people to participate | No | 71 | 79.8 |
|  |  | Yes | 17 | 19.1 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 1 | 1.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 39f. | Treating people equally | No | 18 | 20.2 |
|  |  | Yes | 67 | 75.3 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 68 | 4.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 40. | Do researchers inform participants about what the research entails before the participants are enrolled to the study? | No | 6 | 6.7 |
|  |  | Yes | 80 | 88.9 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 4 | 4.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 41. | Do participants accept to sign consent forms to confirm their participation? | No | 13 | 15.1 |
|  |  | Yes | 67 | 77.9 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 6 | 7.0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 42. | Do wives take authorisation from their husbands to participate in research? | No | 48 | 53.9 |
|  |  | Yes | 13 | 14.6 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 28 | 31.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 43. | Do husbands (or wives) sign consent on behalf of their wives (or husbands)? | No | 60 | 66.7 |
|  |  | Yes | 9 | 10.0 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 21 | 23.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 44. | Do researchers take the names of participants? | No | 28 | 31.1 |
|  |  | Yes | 59 | 65.6 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 3 | 3.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 45. | Do researchers take the phone number of participants? | No | 29 | 33.0 |
|  |  | Yes | 56 | 63.6 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 3 | 3.4 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 46. | Do participants request for monetary compensation to take part in a study? | No | 37 | 41.6 |
|  |  | Yes | 40 | 44.9 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 12 | 13.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 47. | Do participants accept to be part of a study just because they will receive compensation? | No | 44 | 49.4 |
|  |  | Yes | 38 | 42.7 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 7 | 7.9 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 48. | Do participants accept forms of compensation other than money? | No | 13 | 14.9 |
|  |  | Yes | 59 | 67.8 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 15 | 17.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 49. | If Yes to 48. Which other form of compensation to they accept |  |  |  |
| 49a. | Gifts | No | 27 | 56.3 |
|  |  | Yes | 21 | 43.8 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 49b. | Telephone credit | No | 28 | 53.9 |
|  |  | Yes | 24 | 49.3 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 49c. | Food | No | 13 | 24.5 |
|  |  | Yes | 40 | 75.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 50. | Do researchers propose monetary compensation to participants? | No | 45 | 52.3 |
|  |  | Yes | 34 | 39.5 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 7 | 8.1 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 51. | Do researchers propose monetary compensation to participants even in research they are not otherwise comfortable with? | No | 52 | 59.8 |
|  |  | Yes | 20 | 23.0 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 15 | 17.2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 52. | Do participants want to be informed about incidental (unexpected) findings concerning them? | No | 16 | 18.2 |
|  |  | Yes | 59 | 67.1 |
|  |  | Don’t know | 13 | 14.8 |