

# Comment from Shanna Vestal

Posted by the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration** on Jan 15, 2024

As a former CIREN employee of multiple years, I would like to provide my feedback for the consenting process that I experienced first-hand. Identifying patients was based on emergency department evaluation and identifying those that were admitted as "Motor Vehicle Crash" status. Once identified, patients were examined for qualifying injuries for the CIREN study via imaging in their medical records. The patients that qualified for CIREN were visited in their hospital rooms and the study was explained to them in full extend, which on average took about 5-10 minutes, and included the necessities of the study (such as information recall, measurements, and injury photos). Once the patient was consented, the interview regarding the crash normally would take approximately 10-20 minutes depending on how many details the patient was willing to give, how many details they recalled, and how much they wanted to talk about it.

The photos were simple and fast (if agreed to), and only took about 3 minutes. The actual signing of the paperwork was easy and didn't take but a few minutes as well. The overall consent process was very easy to do, very simple, and did not take much time from the patient. In all, the longest interview may have been about 30 minutes but this can be attributed to the patients wanting to ask questions, or simply being friendly and wanting to chat. Otherwise, some interruptions may have occurred, such as physical therapy or another specialty entering the room at the time and having to re-visit that patient later in the day.

In that case, the interview/consent process was postponed to a later time in the day and was quickly and efficiently completed.

As one that has worked on multiple research studies, CIREN was by far the most informative, efficient process I have encountered thus far and I feel that the interview and consenting process is incredibly advanced and streamlined. I hope that in the future more studies would adapt to this method of consenting, as it did not seem to burden the case subjects and ideally seemed to increase enrollment as well.