

Signed Informed Consent Form(s) or Document(s)

For the following reasons we believe there's no need to provide the statement regarding participants informed consent:

1. This is a retrospective study with no intervention or patient contact.
2. No potentially identifying information about the patients is presented.
3. The ethical committee (IRB) was aware of the study's process and has waived the need to obtain consent.

Please contact us if you have any questions about the study's process.

Seyed Taghi Heydari

Associate professor of biostatistics

Shiraz University of medical Sciences

Shiraz, Iran