Informed Consent Gambler and Partner

Official title: Effectiveness Study of Two Types of Intervention for People in Couple Who Have Difficulties With Their Gambling Habits and Alcohol/Drug Use

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This project has been approved by UQTR's research ethics committee (CERPPE-21-01-10.01) and the research ethics committee of the Centre intégré de santé et de services sociaux de Chaudière-Appalaches (MP-23-2022-894).

CONSENT FORM

Efficacy Study of Two Types of Intervention for People in Couple Who Have Difficulties With Their Gambling Habits and Alcohol/Drug Use

Version for the person with a problematic substance or gambling problem

Researchers and their functions:

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Francine Ferland, Ph.D.	Co-chercheure	Service de recherche en dépendance CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale/CISSS de Chaudière-Appalaches Centre de recherche du CISSS-CA, Équipe de RISQ
Catherine Arseneault, Ph.D.	Co-chercheure	Université de Montréal, Équipe de RISQ
Chantal Plourde, Ph.D.	Co-chercheure	UQTR, Équipe de RISQ
Mélissa, Côté, Ph D.	Co-Chercheure	Université Laval, Équipe RISQ
Paul Greenman, PhD	Co-Chercheur	Université du Québec en Outaouais

Introduction and research objectives

The purpose of this research is to compare two treatment modalities for people who have difficulty controlling their gambling habits (gambling) and their alcohol or drug use (use) and who are living in a couple. One of the two modalities is the center's usual treatment, i.e. individual and sometimes group treatment for the person with a gambling problem, with an offer of individual or group meetings for his/her partner. The second modality is a couple treatment that has been developed for couples where one of the members has a problem with alcohol, drugs or gambling. The purpose of the current study is to determine if one of the two modalities is more effective than the other or if they are equivalent. Depending on the results of the study, addiction treatment centers may be able to tailor their services to couples where one member is a gambler or user.

Participation

In agreeing to participate in the study, you agree to be randomly allocated to one of the two treatment groups.

Treatment sessions

a) <u>Individual/group intervention</u>

In this modality, as a person with a substance use or gambling problem you will participate in a regular treatment that consists of individual and sometimes group treatment. You will receive treatment at the service center where you applied for help. If necessary and exceptionally, according to public health rules, we may have video-conference meetings that will respect the security rules of the CISSS/CIUSSS where you will be met. In these meetings, your counsellor will help you identify triggers and risk situations related to your gambling habits and use. You will address your gambling-related beliefs and work on finding alternatives that address the needs that your gambling and use have previously identified. If you are referred to this modality, you agree not to participate in any couple therapy meetings during the research project. A total of 12 to 16 meetings will be offered (1 hour).

b) <u>Couples therapy</u>

In this modality you will participate, as a couple, in 12 to 16 conjugal meetings, each lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes. The meetings will take place at the rate of one meeting per week. You will receive this treatment in the service center where you have made your request for help. During these meetings, we will address both your gambling and substance use problems. In addition, your communication and problem-solving skills as a couple, your shared enjoyment, and opportunities for mutual support around your gambling and substance use issues will be discussed. The goal is to maximize your chances of success in changing your gambling and substance use habits, and to improve the quality of your relationship. After the conjugal research meetings, treatment will continue according to your respective needs, either individually or as a couple (or both) and following an agreement with your counsellor. In addition, you will be given a guide to accompany and reflect on the reality experienced by the partners, the strategies that are known to help restore communication skills and strategies for better care.

Research sessions

In addition to the treatment meetings, you will participate in four assessment meetings with a research officer. These meetings will last approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes. The first meeting may take place now, if you agree, after signing this consent form. This first meeting will be used to evaluate your eligibility for this project. In fact, in order to obtain a certain homogeneity in the couples recruited and to ensure that you get a treatment adapted to your condition, inclusion and exclusion criteria have been developed. After your first meeting with the research officer, he or she will contact you within 24 to 48 hours to confirm or not your participation in the research and to tell you which treatment modality you will be referred to. Afterwards, treatment will begin following an appointment with your worker who will work with you (alone or as a couple, depending on the modality). If you are in the conjugal modality, the research officer will provide the counsellor with a

summary of your assessment results in order to help him/her better understand your situation and avoid asking you for the same information a second time. Also, at the beginning of each treatment session, you will be asked to complete a few brief questionnaires about your gambling and substance use habits and certain aspects of your personal and marital life (15 minutes each time). If you are not eligible for our research project, the services usually offered by the treatment center where you applied for help will still be available to you and your partner. If you are not selected for the project, however, we ask for your permission to keep the data we collected at this intake meeting for our analyses.

The other research meetings will take place at 6, 12 and 18 months following the intake meeting (today). At these meetings, you will complete a variety of questionnaires about your gambling habits, your use of substances, your general personal state and your marital life. We will also ask you open-ended questions that will allow you to tell us about your experience throughout the process. Your answers to these questions will be recorded and transcribed to facilitate analysis.

The clinician will video-record the couples therapy sessions for the purposes of supervisory meetings with the investigators to help the therapist adopt the intervention strategy that best suits your needs. Sessions may be audio-recorded only. The investigators will analyze the videotapes and audiotapes to gain a better understanding of the needs of couples where one partner has a gambling problem.

Finally, we ask you to accept the possibility of being asked to participate again in a follow-up study of the intervention received. This does not commit you to anything other than agreeing to be contacted again by the research team.

Financial compensation

Each person will receive financial compensation for each session with the research officer. The compensation will take the form of coupons worth the following amounts, redeemable at a shopping centre in your region:

- Admission meeting (today)…….....$50 each
- Follow-up session, 6 months after the admission meeting ……..……...$75 each
- Follow-up session, 12 months after the admission meeting ……..……..$75 each
- Follow-up session , 18 months after the admission meeting ……..……....$75 each

In total, each member of the couple will receive a financial compensation of $275 in vouchers, if you agree to take part in the 3 follow-up meetings. Even if you decide not to complete the couple treatment with your clinician, we will be interested in meeting with you to understand your progress. If you come to the meetings with the research officer, you will receive the financial compensation as planned. If you withdraw from the project (or your participation is terminated) before it is completed, the compensation will be

proportional to the length of your participation. There is no compensation for meetings where you do not attend.

Advantages and benefits

Your participation in this project could help you overcome your gambling and substance use problems, as well as help your partner through the couple or individual meetings that are offered. Also, your participation in the study will contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the field of intervention for people with gambling and substance use problems who live in couples, as it will help us identify the most effective treatment modalities for these people.

Inconveniences and risks

The treatment may not achieve the desired success. However, the treatment center where you will receive services assures you that beyond the research meetings, you will be able to continue to receive services, individual or couple, for as long as necessary. If, during the course of the meetings (and even beyond), a major crisis situation arises (suicidal emergency, declaration of relationship breakdown, etc.), the clinicians will use all necessary resources as they do in all these clinical situations. If necessary, participation in meetings will simply be stopped.

Confidentiality

During your participation in this project, the responsible researcher and his or her staff will collect and record information about you in a research file. Only the information necessary to meet the scientific objectives of this project will be collected. All information collected during the course of the project is denominalized (without your name and identifying information, only a research number will identify you) and it will be impossible to identify the responses of any particular participant. The various data will be transcribed into computer files. These data are then stored in a directory accessible only by the team researchers and their research officers. Only the information necessary to meet the scientific objectives of this project will be collected.

The paper copies of the questionnaires as well as the video or audio tapes will be kept in a locked file cabinet in the research room of the principal investigator at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, at the Centre universitaire de Québec. The paper copies of the questionnaires, the videotapes or audiotapes and the computerized denominational files will be kept for a period of 7 years, from the end of the research project, and then destroyed. During this period, we will be able to redo various analyses based on these interviews. The field of research with couples in which one member is a gambler and consumer is not well developed and we are interested in re-analyzing the interviews based on our new knowledge gained later. Only research directed or co-directed by the principal investigator will be able to address secondary analyses of the data. After the 7 years, the paper questionnaires will be disposed of in a specific area set aside for the destruction of confidential documents (shredding) in the offices of the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. The video and audio recordings will be physically destroyed.

This research project falls within a broader research program on the role of families and friends in the treatment of pathological gamblers. With your consent, the data collected during this research project may be used for secondary analyses in the context of a few research projects conducted by members of the current research team (including students they supervise). "Secondary analysis" means, for example, more-in-depth validation of questionnaires used in this project, grouping of data from two similar studies to increase the number of participants, analysis of specific sub-groups (male gamblers versus female gamblers), and so forth. Identifying information will be retracted of course, so there will be no way of identifying you (names will be removed, with participants being identified only by a code number). Secondary analyses will be conducted within the seven-year data preservation period, and every secondary analysis will be subject to ethics approval. All research reports will be presented in such a way that it is impossible to recognize any participant.

If, during the course of an evaluation or intervention, the research officers or the clinicians become aware of a situation of child abuse or serious child neglect, the researchers, the research officer or the clinicians will have to proceed with a denunciation under the Youth Protection Act. This measure also applies to treatment outside of any research project. Also, if during the course of an evaluation or intervention, the research officers or clinicians are informed of a situation of domestic violence that endangers the safety of one of the members of the couple, the research officers and clinicians will have to denounce the situation to the responsible authorities.

For monitoring and control purposes, your research file may be consulted by a person mandated by the Research Ethics Committee of the CISSS de Chaudière-Appalaches or by the institution, or by a person appointed by an authorized organization. All these people and organizations adhere to a confidentiality policy.

You have the right to consult your research file to verify the information collected and have it corrected, if necessary, as long as the researcher in charge of the project or the institution holds this information. However, in order to preserve the scientific integrity of the project, you may not have access to some of this information until after your participation.

Access to the clinical file

We are asking you to give us access to your clinical file data at the center where you are being treated. Specifically, we want to know, throughout the follow-up of the research project, i.e. until the date of the last research meeting scheduled for approximately 18 months after the start of treatment, what services you have received. Also, when necessary, we want to have access to relevant information to contact you for the research follow-up. In addition, we want to photocopy the questionnaires and assessments you completed with the providers at intake and during the process.

Dissemination of results

The results of this study will be presented in the form of a research report, conferences and scientific articles, always respecting the confidentiality of data. Your name will not be mentioned and the necessary steps will be taken to ensure that you cannot be identified.

Withdrawal from the study

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are free to agree or refuse to take part. If you choose to participate, you can withdraw at any time. You will be under no pressure from the participating investigators or clinicians to remain in the study. Nor will you suffer any harm or loss of benefits to which you are normally entitled, such as the standard gambling treatment services received from your treatment centre. If you decide to withdraw from the study, the forms and questionnaires you completed during the research, as well as data stored in computer files, will be destroyed.

Your departure will not result in any form of pressure from the researchers or participating stakeholders, nor will it result in any prejudice or loss of benefits to which you are normally entitled, such as treatment for your gambling and substance use habits, offered as standard at the center where you are in treatment.

In case of prejudice

If you are harmed in any way due to your participation in this research project, you will be protected under the laws of Québec. By agreeing to participate in this study, you neither waive any of your rights nor release the researchers or the institution where the research project is being conducted of their civil or professional responsibilities.

Resource persons

For any other information, you can contact the principal investigator Joël Tremblay Joel.Tremblay@uqtr.ca or the research project coordinator, Mrs. Myriam Beaulieu Myriam.Beaulieu@uqtr.ca.

If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this research project or if you have any complaints or comments to make, you can contact the local service quality and complaints commissioner of the institution.

For the CISSS de Chaudière-Appalaches, point of service of the Centre de réadaptation en dépendance de Chaudière-Appalaches (CRDCA), Ms. Brigitte Landry, local service quality and complaints commissioner at 1-877-986-3587 or commissaire.cisss-ca@ssss.gouv.qc.ca.

Ethical oversight of the research project

The Research Ethics Committee of the CISSS de Chaudière-Appalaches has approved this research project and will ensure the monitoring of the project for the participating institutions of the Quebec health and social services network. For any information, you can

reach the coordinator of the research ethics committee, or his representative, at 418 835-7121, extension 11256.

Declaration by the researcher or the person obtaining consent

I have explained the research project and this information and consent form to the participant and have answered the questions he or she has asked me.

Name of the research officer	Signature of the research officer	Date

Parties' signatures

Participants

I hereby declare that I have read and understand the contents of this consent form. I know that I am free to participate in the project or not and that I can withdraw from it at any time, by giving notice verbally, without affecting in any way the continuation of services I am receiving from my treatment centre. I declare that the project has been explained to me and that I can decide to participate or not, with no limitations or pressure from anyone. I hereby agree to participate in this project.

I agree to provide access to my clinical file from the center where I am being treated.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I agree that the couple treatment meetings being video-recorded	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I agree that the couple treatment meetings being audio-recorded.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I agree that the research interviews may be audio recorded.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I consent to secondary analyses being conducted on data collected, but solely under the supervision of the research team.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I consent to being contacted during the next 36 months in relation to future research projects directly related to this one.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
Please indicate how you can be reached: Telephone number: _____ Other telephone number: _____ Email: _____ Postal address: _____ _____ Text message: ____/____/_____ People we can contact to get in touch with you: 1. Person's name: _____ • Telephone number: _____ • Relationship to you (e.g. friend, brother): _____ 2. Person's name: _____ • Telephone number: _____ • Relationship to you (e.g. friend, brother):	
If you would like to receive a summary of the research results, please indicate whether you would like it sent by email or regular mail.	□Email □ Regular mail

Name of participant	***Signature of participant***	***Date***

Appendix: Summary table of participation

Research meetings	Treatment meetings			
	Individual modality		Couple modality	
	Person with a use or a gambling problem	*Partner*	*Person with a use or a gambling problem*	*Partner*
First evaluation/research meeting (approximately 2h-2h30)	x	x	x	x
Start of treatment	12 to 16 individual meetings with a clinician	Services usually offered to family members if desired	12 to 16 conjugal meetings with the same clinician for both members of the couple	
6 months after the research assessment (2h30)	x		x	
12 months after the research assessment (2h30)	x		x	
18 months after the research assessment (2h30)	x		x	

CONSENT FORM

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Version for the partner

Researchers and their functions:

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Introduction and research objectives

The purpose of this research is to compare two treatment modalities for people who have difficulty controlling their gambling habits (gambling) and their alcohol or drug use (use) and who are living in a couple. One of the two modalities is the center's usual treatment, i.e. individual and sometimes group treatment for the person with a gambling problem, with an offer of individual or group meetings for his/her partner. The second modality is a couple treatment that has been developed for couples where one of the members has a problem with alcohol, drugs or gambling. The purpose of the current study is to determine if one of the two modalities is more effective than the other or if they are equivalent. Depending on the results of the study, addiction treatment centers may be able to tailor their services to couples where one member is a gambler or user.

Participation

In agreeing to participate in the study, you agree to be randomly allocated to one of the two treatment groups.

Treatment sessions

<u>Individual/group treatment (for the partner)</u>

In this modality, as a partner, you will have access to the services that are usually offered to the members of the entourage of a person with a substance use or gambling problem. Depending on your needs, you will be able to participate in individual or group meetings aimed at improving your personal well-being and better understanding how your partner's gambling and substance use habits develop. If you are referred to this modality, you agree not to participate in any marital therapy meetings during the research project.

<u>Couples treatment</u>

In this modality, you will participate, as a couple, in 12 to 16 conjugal meetings, each lasting 1 hour and 15 minutes. You will receive the treatment in the service center where you made your request for help. If necessary and exceptionally, according to public health rules, we may have videoconference meetings that respect the security rules of the CISSS/CIUSSS where you will be met. During these meetings, we will address both the difficulties related to your partner's gambling and substance use, but also how your couple can improve their communication and problem-solving skills, increase shared enjoyment and support each other around gambling-related difficulties and their impact on married life. The goal is to maximize your chances of success in helping your partner change his or her gambling and substance use habits, and to improve the quality of your relationship. After the conjugal meetings related to the research, the treatment will continue according to your respective needs, individually or as a couple (or both) and following an agreement with your counsellor. In addition, you will be given a support and reflection guide with information on the reality of the partners' lives, known strategies to assist in the recovery of the gambling-abusing spouse, communication skills and strategies for better care.

Research sessions

In addition to the treatment meetings, you will participate in four assessment meetings with a research officer. These meetings will last approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes. The first meeting may take place now, if you agree, after signing this consent form. This first meeting will be used to evaluate your eligibility for this project. In fact, in order to obtain a certain homogeneity in the couples recruited and to ensure that you get a treatment adapted to your condition, inclusion and exclusion criteria have been developed. After your first meeting with the research officer, he or she will contact you within 24 to 48 hours to confirm or not your participation in the research and to tell you which treatment modality you will be referred to. Afterwards, treatment will begin following an appointment with your worker who will work with you (alone or as a couple, depending on the modality). If you are in the conjugal modality, the research officer will provide the counsellor with a summary of your assessment results in order to help him/her better understand your situation and avoid asking you for the same information a second time. Also, at the beginning of each treatment session, you will be asked to complete a few brief questionnaires about your gambling and substance use habits and certain aspects of your

personal and marital life (15 minutes each time). If you are not eligible for our research project, the services usually offered by the treatment center where you applied for help will still be available to you and your partner. If you are not selected for the project, however, we ask for your permission to keep the data we collected at this intake meeting for our analyses.

The other research meetings will take place at 6, 12 and 18 months following the intake meeting (today). At these meetings, you will complete a variety of questionnaires about your gambling habits, your use of substances, your general personal state and your marital life. We will also ask you open-ended questions that will allow you to tell us about your experience throughout the process. Your answers to these questions will be recorded and transcribed to facilitate analysis.

The clinician will video-record the couples therapy sessions for the purposes of supervisory meetings with the investigators to help the therapist adopt the intervention strategy that best suits your needs. Sessions may be audio-recorded only. The investigators will analyze the videotapes and audiotapes to gain a better understanding of the needs of couples where one partner has a gambling problem.

Finally, we ask you to accept the possibility of being asked to participate again in a follow-up study of the intervention received. This does not commit you to anything other than agreeing to be contacted again by the research team.

Financial compensation

Each person will receive financial compensation for each session with the research officer. The compensation will take the form of coupons worth the following amounts, redeemable at a shopping centre in your region:

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In total, each member of the couple will receive a financial compensation of $275 in vouchers, if you agree to take part in the 3 follow-up meetings. Even if you decide not to complete the couple treatment with your clinician, we will be interested in meeting with you to understand your progress. If you come to the meetings with the research officer, you will receive the financial compensation as planned. If you withdraw from the project (or your participation is terminated) before it is completed, the compensation will be proportional to the length of your participation. There is no compensation for meetings where you do not attend.

Advantages and benefits

Your participation in this project could help your partner overcome his or her gambling and substance use difficulties, as well as help you personally through the couple or individual meetings offered to you. Also, your participation in the study will contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the field of treatment for people with gambling and substance use problems who live in couples, as it will help us identify the most effective treatment modalities for these people.

Inconveniences and risks

It is possible that the treatment will not achieve the desired success. However, the treatment center where you will receive services assures you that beyond the research meetings, you will be able to continue to receive services, individual or couple, for as long as necessary. If, during the course of the meetings (and even beyond), a major crisis situation arises (suicidal emergency, declaration of relationship breakdown, etc.), the clinicians will use all necessary resources as they do in all these clinical situations. If necessary, participation in meetings will simply be stopped.

Confidentiality

During your participation in this project, the responsible researcher and his or her staff will collect and record information about you in a research file. Only the information necessary to meet the scientific objectives of this project will be collected. All information collected during the course of the project is denominalized (without your name and identifying information, only a research number will identify you) and it will be impossible to identify the responses of any particular participant. The various data will be transcribed into computer files. These data are then stored in a directory accessible only by the team researchers and their research officers. Only the information necessary to meet the scientific objectives of this project will be collected.

The paper copies of the questionnaires as well as the video or audio tapes will be kept in a locked file cabinet in the research room of the principal investigator at the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières, at the Centre universitaire de Québec. The paper copies of the questionnaires, the videotapes or audiotapes and the computerized denominational files will be kept for a period of 7 years, from the end of the research project, and then destroyed. During this period, we will be able to redo various analyses based on these interviews. The field of research with couples in which one member is a gambler and consumer is not well developed and we are interested in re-analyzing the interviews based on our new knowledge gained later. Only research directed or co-directed by the principal investigator will be able to address secondary analyses of the data. After the 7 years, the paper questionnaires will be disposed of in a specific area set aside for the destruction of confidential documents (shredding) in the offices of the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières. The video and audio recordings will be physically destroyed.

This research project falls within a broader research program on the role of families and friends in the treatment of pathological gamblers. With your consent, the data collected during this research project may be used for secondary analyses in the context of a few research projects conducted by members of the current research team (including students they supervise). "Secondary analysis" means, for example, more-in-depth validation of questionnaires used in this project, grouping of data from two similar studies to increase the number of participants, analysis of specific sub-groups (male gamblers versus female gamblers), and so forth. Identifying information will be retracted of course, so there will be no way of identifying you (names will be removed, with participants being identified only by a code number). Secondary analyses will be conducted within the seven-year data preservation period, and every secondary analysis will be subject to ethics approval. All research reports will be presented in such a way that it is impossible to recognize any participant.

If, during the course of an evaluation or intervention, the research officers or the clinicians become aware of a situation of child abuse or serious child neglect, the researchers, the research officer or the clinicians will have to proceed with a denunciation under the Youth Protection Act. This measure also applies to treatment outside of any research project. Also, if during the course of an evaluation or intervention, the research officers or clinicians are informed of a situation of domestic violence that endangers the safety of one of the members of the couple, the research officers and clinicians will have to denounce the situation to the responsible authorities.

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You have the right to consult your research file to verify the information collected and have it corrected, if necessary, as long as the researcher in charge of the project or the institution holds this information. However, in order to preserve the scientific integrity of the project, you may not have access to some of this information until after your participation.

Access to the clinical file

We are asking you to give us access to your clinical file data at the center where you are being treated. Specifically, we want to know, throughout the follow-up of the research project, i.e. until the date of the last research meeting scheduled for approximately 18 months after the start of treatment, what services you have received. Also, when necessary, we want to have access to relevant information to contact you for the research follow-up. In addition, we want to photocopy the questionnaires and assessments you completed with the providers at intake and during the process.

Dissemination of results

The results of this study will be presented in the form of a research report, conferences and scientific articles, always respecting the confidentiality of data. Your name will not be mentioned and the necessary steps will be taken to ensure that you cannot be identified.

Withdrawal from the study

Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are free to agree or refuse to take part. If you choose to participate, you can withdraw at any time. You will be under no pressure from the participating investigators or clinicians to remain in the study. Nor will you suffer any harm or loss of benefits to which you are normally entitled, such as the standard gambling treatment services received from your treatment centre. If you decide to withdraw from the study, the forms and questionnaires you completed during the research, as well as data stored in computer files, will be destroyed.

Your departure will not result in any form of pressure from the researchers or participating stakeholders, nor will it result in any prejudice or loss of benefits to which you are normally entitled, such as treatment for your gambling and substance use habits, offered as standard at the center where you are in treatment.

In case of prejudice

If you are harmed in any way due to your participation in this research project, you will be protected under the laws of Québec. By agreeing to participate in this study, you neither waive any of your rights nor release the researchers or the institution where the research project is being conducted of their civil or professional responsibilities.

Resource persons

For any other information, you can contact the principal investigator Joël Tremblay Joel.Tremblay@uqtr.ca or the research project coordinator, Mrs. Myriam Beaulieu Myriam.Beaulieu@uqtr.ca.

If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this research project or if you have any complaints or comments to make, you can contact the local service quality and complaints commissioner of the institution.

For the CISSS de Chaudière-Appalaches, point of service of the Centre de réadaptation en dépendance de Chaudière-Appalaches (CRDCA), Ms. Brigitte Landry, local service quality and complaints commissioner at 1-877-986-3587 or commissaire.cisss-ca@ssss.gouv.qc.ca.

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The Research Ethics Committee of the CISSS de Chaudière-Appalaches has approved this research project and will ensure the monitoring of the project for the participating institutions of the Quebec health and social services network. For any information, you can reach the coordinator of the research ethics committee, or his representative, at 418 835-7121, extension 11256.

Declaration by the researcher or the person obtaining consent

I have explained the research project and this information and consent form to the participant and have answered the questions he or she has asked me.

Name of the research officer	Signature of the research officer	Date

Parties' signatures

Participants

I hereby declare that I have read and understand the contents of this consent form. I know that I am free to participate in the project or not and that I can withdraw from it at any time, by giving notice verbally, without affecting in any way the continuation of services I am receiving from my treatment centre. I declare that the project has been explained to me and that I can decide to participate or not, with no limitations or pressure from anyone. I hereby agree to participate in this project.

I agree to provide access to my clinical file from the center where I am being treated.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I agree that the couple treatment meetings being video-recorded	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I agree that the couple treatment meetings being audio-recorded.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I agree that the research interviews may be audio recorded.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I consent to secondary analyses being conducted on data collected, but solely under the supervision of the research team.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
I consent to being contacted during the next 36 months in relation to future research projects directly related to this one.	□YES □NO _____ Initials
Please indicate how you can be reached: Telephone number: _____ Other telephone number: _____ Email: _____ Postal address: _____ _____ Text message: ____/____/_____ People we can contact to get in touch with you: 1. Person's name: _____ • Telephone number: _____ • Relationship to you (e.g. friend, brother): _____ 2. Person's name: _____ • Telephone number: _____ • Relationship to you (e.g. friend, brother):	
If you would like to receive a summary of the research results, please indicate whether you would like it sent by email or regular mail.	□Email □ Regular mail

Name of participant	***Signature of participant***	***Date***

Appendix: Summary table of participation

Research meetings	Treatment meetings			
	Individual modality		**Couple modality**	
	Person with a use or a gambling problem	*Partner*	*Person with a use or a gambling problem*	*Partner*
First evaluation/research meeting (approximately 2h-2h30)	x	x	x	x
Start of treatment	12 to 16 individual meetings with a clinician	Services usually offered to family members if desired	12 to 16 conjugal meetings with the same clinician for both members of the couple	
6 months after the research assessment (2h30)	x		x	
12 months after the research assessment (2h30)	x		x	
18 months after the research assessment (2h30)	x		x	