



Consent Made Easy – Harmonising Practices With The Singhealth Clinical Consent Template



Singapore Healthcare Management 2024

Mr Chee Ming Siang David Jeremiah, SingHealth
 Ms Tan Wei Ting, SingHealth
 Ms Koa Jia Tong (Shu Yu), SingHealth
 Ms Farah Iffah Binte Zulkifli, SingHealth
 Mr Jeffrey Ong Wei Jun, SingHealth
 Dr Yeang Shu Hui, SingHealth
 A/Prof Ong Biau Chi, SingHealth

INTRODUCTION

A harmonised clinical consent will:

- Ensure clear understanding for patients
- Promote voluntary agreement through open communication
- Establish a systematic documentation process
- Enhance transparency, accountability and peer consensus

CONSENT FORM	
TITLE [PROCEDURE / TREATMENT / SURGERY]	ACCOUNT NO. NRIC NO. NAME ADDRESS SEX/BIRTH DATE/RACE DATE AND TIME OF ADMISSION
What is [the procedure / treatment / surgery]? Describe the brief definition of the [the procedure / treatment / surgery]	
Why do I need this [the procedure / treatment / surgery]? Explain the indication, including reasons and benefits of the [procedure / treatment / surgery]	
What does it involve? Describe the nature of the proposed [procedure / treatment / surgery], which may include some or all of the following: 1. How the treatment is performed? 2. Important features of the treatment, including irreversible effect of treatment and possible recurrence 3. Probable outcomes of treatment 4. Unexpected findings during treatment that require additional procedure and the extent of the additional procedure	
What precautions must I take for the [the procedure / treatment / surgery]? Explain the precautions need to be taken prior to the [procedure / treatment / surgery]. E.g. Please inform your doctor if you have any medical illnesses. Before the procedure, please inform your doctor if any of the following are applicable: 1. You have a history of allergy or reaction to any medications, drugs, or food 2. You have a history of bleeding or clotting disorders 3. You are taking drugs (e.g. Aspirin, Clopidogrel, Warfarin, and Rivaroxaban) or supplements (e.g. Goryceps, Ginkgo Biloba, and Lingzhi) that thin your blood, as these substances may affect blood clotting and increase the risk of bleeding. If you are taking any of these, your doctor will advise you accordingly.	
What are the risks and complications of [the procedure / treatment / surgery]? The following are potential complications of the procedure (non-exhaustive): 1. Any temporary complications along with [procedure / treatment / surgery] for these temporary conditions 2. Any significant permanent results and long term physical, emotional, mental, social, sexual complications 3. Other risks that are reasonably foreseeable, such as injury to surrounding structures and their sequelae	
What can I expect after [the procedure / treatment / surgery]? Include the following: 1. After the [procedure / treatment / surgery] (e.g. admission to ICU (if applicable), pain killers, surgical drain, urinary catheter, dressing, stitches, 2. Length of stay in the hospital and likely recovery period 3. Upon discharge (e.g. medication to be taken (for example immuno-suppressive drugs), regular blood test and/or follow-up, activities to be avoided)	
What are my options? Include the following: 1. Any other existing alternatives to the [procedure / treatment / surgery], including the benefits and risks of the alternatives 2. Explanation of the reasons the [procedure / treatment / surgery] prescribed is preferred over the other alternatives 3. Likely consequences of not choosing the proposed [procedure / treatment / surgery], or of not having any [procedure / treatment / surgery] at all You may also choose not to undergo the procedure with the risk of delayed diagnosis and treatment, and further disease progression. You may discuss these options in more detail with your doctor.	
Others (to be filled by Healthcare Professional) (if applicable)	

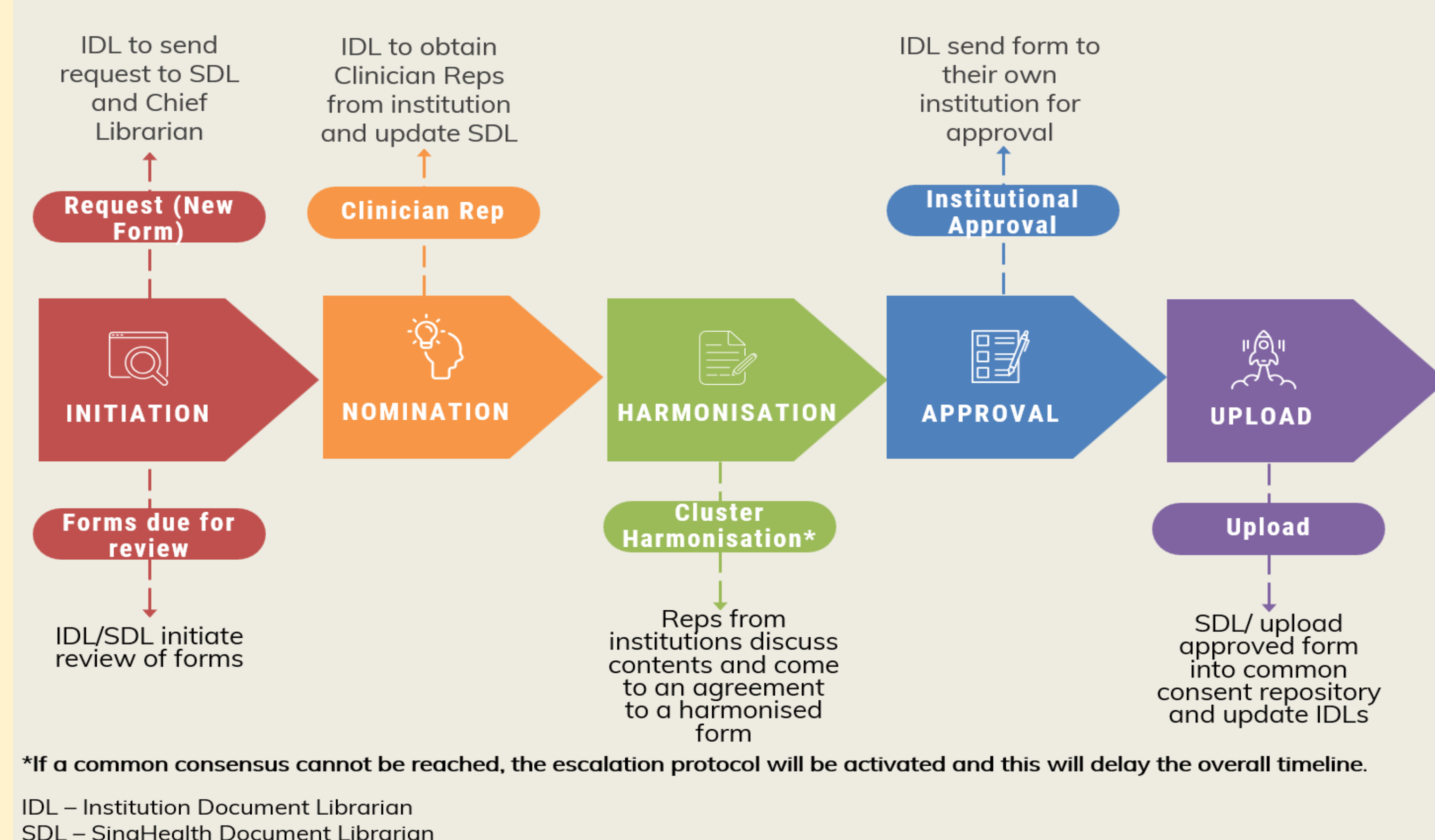
METHODOLOGY

The creation of the template involves:

- Review of relevant regulations and international standards
- Identification of core elements
- Validation by SingHealth Legal

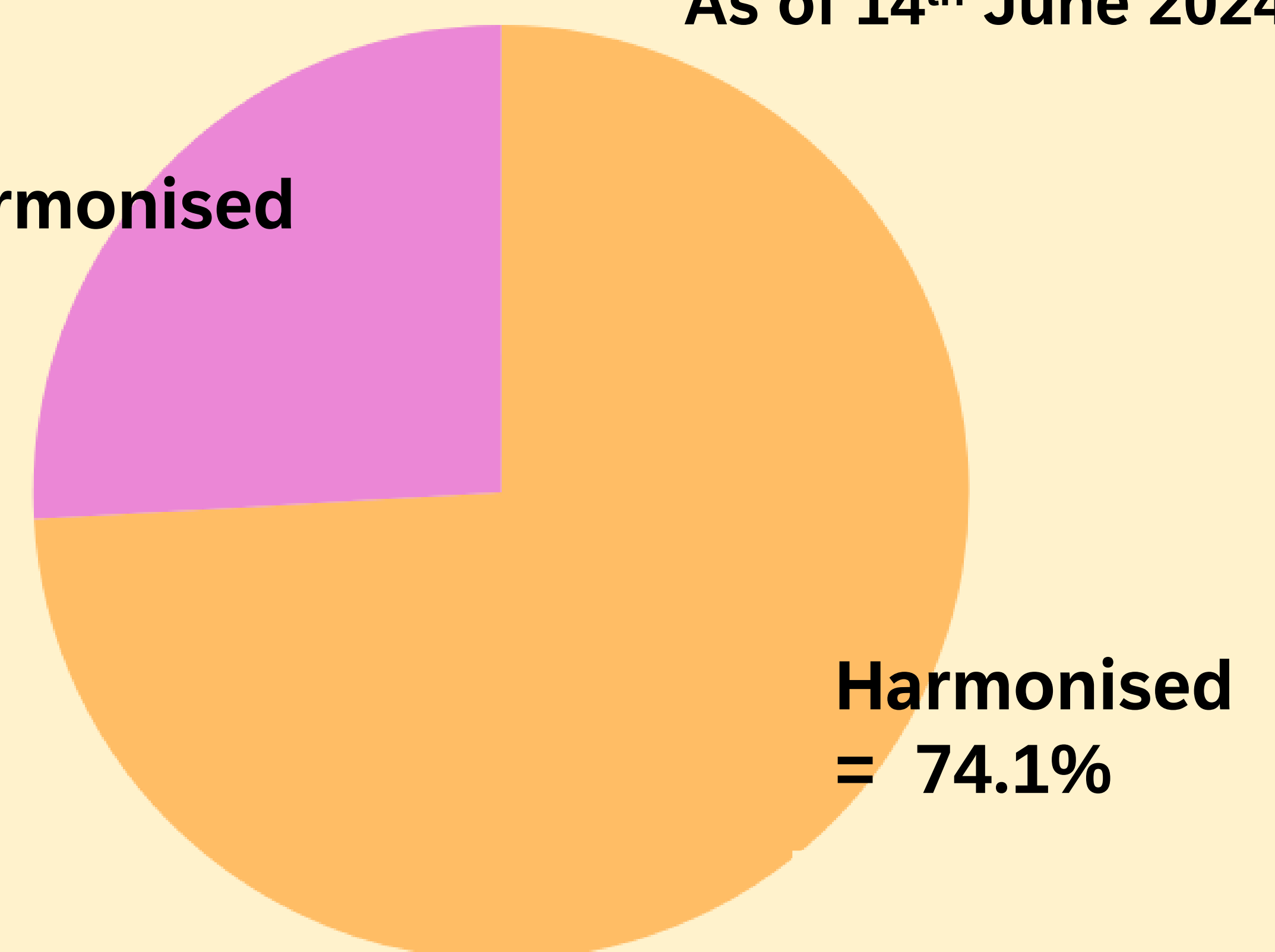
RESULTS

Cluster Consent Harmonisation Process



As of 14th June 2024

Non - Harmonised = 25.9%



- Information consistency
- Improved readability by patients
- Collaboration across institutions

CONCLUSION

- SingHealth implemented a standardised consent template
- >74% of forms have transitioned to the template
- Initiative promotes clear and consistent communication of information to patients and improves patient decision-making and transparency
- Continuous alignment with best practices and international standards