Attached to protocol: SHARE-THPP-I, Goa
Principal Investigator: Vikram Patel
IRB Protocol title: South Asian Hub for Advocacy, Research and Education on mental health (SHARE).
Thinking Healthy Program – Peer-delivered (THPP): SHARE-THPP-I
Participation duration: 5 minutes
Anticipated number of subjects: 280

The purpose of the Thinking Healthy Program – Peer-delivered study (THPP)
We are a group of researchers affiliated with Sangath, a non-governmental organization located in Goa, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK, who are interested in studying the well-being of mothers and the health of their babies. Mothers who experience stress may feel unwell and may need extra support for themselves and their babies. We are carrying out a research project in Goa to study the benefits of such a support system called the “Thinking Healthy Program – Peer-delivered (THPP)”. In order to do so, we first need to identify women who have recently experienced stress.

What do I need to do?
Our research assistant will ask you some questions on your feelings and emotions to find out if you meet the criteria for stress-related illness. This will take approximately 5 minutes of your time. If your responses indicate that you might be stressed, we will provide you with more information and invite you to take part in our study.

Do I have to take part?
No. Participation is completely voluntary. Saying ‘no’ will have no negative effect on future health care you which you receive at the Asilo hospital or at the Goa Medical College hospital.

What happens next?
If your responses indicate that you might be stressed, we will provide you with more information about our study and invite you to take part in it. We will also provide your results to the gynaecologist to enhance the care that you receive at the hospital.

Confidentiality
All information collected about you will be kept strictly confidential. Please note, that we and any researchers working on this study ensure privacy and confidentiality for all study-related data, documents, and findings. The results of all assessments and tests will never be linked to yourself.

To make the most of what we learn through your participation in the project, at the completion of the study your de-identified data (data identified by a code or number) will be made available to qualified researchers who are not part of this project for additional analysis. The data made available will include the de-identified data of you and your baby which was collected in the study. Only qualified researchers at institutions which have appropriate protections for participants will be allowed to access the data.

Who has approved the study?
This study has been reviewed and approved by a scientific committee at Sangath and the Indian Council for Medical Research, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and the US National Institute of Mental Health.
Who should I contact for further information?
If you would like to receive more information regarding our study, or if you would like to discuss your rights regarding participation in this study please contact Mrs Kishori Mandrekar (Address: Sangath, 841/1, Alto Porvorim, Bardez, Goa – 403521; Tel: 0838 008 6296).

We believe that this is a very important research project as it will provide vital information to improve maternal health care in India. We hope that you and your baby will participate in this important study and help us in researching the maternal health needs of mothers in your community, and in designing appropriate programs, by signing this form below.

Thank you for your cooperation.