



Date: 04 /09/2022

Project Code: BSCUoZ/04/09/2022

Approval of Ethics Committee

This is to confirm that the research entitled:

**(The Global Microbiome Conservancy at OpenBiome: Understanding & Conserving
the Human Microbiome)**

Type of approval: unconditional, taking into consideration the following mandates

1. All participants will fill and sign the Consent form (Form C or Consent to Participate in Biological Research Form with Health & Lifestyle Questionnaire) after explanations by investigators.
2. Grantee of signing any of the Form C, the Consent to Participate in Biological Research Form and Health & Lifestyle Questionnaire by the participants is given the right to publish the results of this study.
3. Optional; vaginal swab will be taken from none-virgin females as well as blood samples will be collected from different the participants.
4. The participants have the right to withdraw from the study.
5. The participants don't bear the responsibility for paying for any procedure.
6. Confidentiality of data should be secured.
7. Not necessary to notify the participant about the results of the procedure performed.
8. Any change in the area of the sample collection of this study does not need prior approval of Research Ethics Committee.
9. The Global Microbiome Conservancy at OpenBiome (Kiel University, Germany and Massachusetts Institute of Technology ('MIT'), Cambridge, MA, USA) will be responsible for the budget of this project, not our local authors and University of Zakho.

Kind Regards

The Committee Members:

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ADDITIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR OPTIONAL VAGINAL SAMPLING
Global Microbiome Conservancy at OpenBiome

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability.

We understand this survey is personal. You may choose not to answer a question, or not to participate in vaginal sampling. This will not affect your ability to participate in the rest of the study. Your responses will be kept anonymous.

If you choose to not answer a question, please write "SKIP". If you decide not to participate in vaginal sampling, please notify study personnel.

We appreciate your help to understand factors associated with the vaginal microbiome.

Participant Number:

Today's Date:

1. Do you menstruate?

- No
 Yes

If **yes**: When was the first day of your last period?

On average, how long is your menstruation cycle?

Do you have a period about once a month?

What forms of feminine hygiene products do you typically use (pads, tampons, menstrual cups, other)?

If **no**, have you ever menstruated?

- No
 Yes If yes, when was the last time you menstruated?

2. Have you ever been diagnosed with polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS)?

- No
 Yes

