



The Royal College of Pathologists
Pathology: the science behind the cure

YOUR BODY YOUR CONSENT



Should
consent be so
important?

Research using human tissue is essential if we are to improve our understanding of cancer and develop more effective cancer treatments.

Your Body Your Consent: an ethics workshop for schools

This set of videos and accompanying written materials have been developed by The Royal College of Pathologists (RCPATH) to help pathologists run their own Your Body Your Consent (YBYC) with school students.

We encourage pathologists, or others working in education or health, to use the resources to organise this workshop during **National Pathology Week**.

What is Your Body Your Consent?

Developed by RCPATH Fellows and public engagement staff, Your Body Your Consent is a tried-and-tested workshop, which introduces secondary school students to several ethical issues surrounding the Human Tissue Act of 2004. The 2-hour workshop is easy to set up, and this event guide and accompanying resources (see below and the **YBYC webpage**) will give you all of the information you need to run a really rewarding activity with young people. The workshop is targeted at sixth-form age students, but more advanced students from years 10 and 11 could also gain a great deal from this. You might also consider running it with first year medical students.

The videos

The links to each of the 3 how-to videos in this resource on the Your Body Your Consent resources page are the quickest and easiest way to find out what steps you need to take to run this workshop. Speakers on the videos include Professor Mark Wilkinson, who has been involved in developing and delivering Your Body Your Consent with the RCPATH public engagement team over the past few years. There are also some thoughts from both new and experienced facilitators, so the videos are an extremely useful tool if you have not run an event like this before.

The full lecture gives event organisers an idea of how Professor Mark Wilkinson delivers the introductory lecture and plenary session, using the Your Body Your Consent slides and discussion cards. It can also be used by school teachers wishing to run the group discussion part of this activity; the video of the lecture can be shown to students to introduce the topics at the start of the workshop.

Your Body Your Consent: Welcome Video (1/3)

Your Body Your Consent: Planning Your Event (2/3)

Your Body Your Consent: Tips for Facilitators (3/3)

**Your Body Your Consent:
Donation, Research and Other Issues Surrounding Consent (Full lecture – 42 minutes)**

Find the relevant materials on the **RCPATH website**

In this how-to guide...

- Quick step-by-step guide on how to organise this workshop
- Materials needed to run the workshop
- Session plan – timings below
- Email to schools template

Other accompanying resources on the Your Body Your Consent page

- Slides for introductory presentation and quiz
- Facilitator briefing pack
- Teacher guidelines
- Group discussion cards

Quick step-by-step guide to running the workshop

- 1. Pick an appropriate date** - Avoid school exam periods, usually May and June. November and July are good months for schools. You might consider tying in the workshops with National Pathology Week in November or British Science Week in March.
- 2. Choose the right venue** - The room or space you use for the workshop needs to be flexible in so much as it enables the chairs for all students and facilitators to be set up as theatre style for the introductory talk, and then moved into circles of chairs that are not too close to each other for the facilitated discussion. If you can find a venue that has some link to medicine or pathology that would offer this, that would be ideal as holding the workshop somewhere like a pathology museum offers a fantastic visual backdrop and additional material for supporting the discussions. Obviously not everyone can access a pathology museum so there are lots of other spaces that would work including conference centres, community or village halls, science centres and meeting rooms at hospitals.

If you're a school then you can of course use your own hall or canteen; if it is possible to take the students out to another venue for the workshop this is recommended as it offers a good opportunity for them to discuss their views in a different environment to their everyday.

While having a space that can accommodate 50 students and around 7 facilitators is probably the best set-up, other sized events will still work, but think carefully about how many participants would best suit the venue you book. Try and book the venue a few months in advance so you have time to recruit both pathologist and students. You can always split the day into two halves and have two groups of students and give the facilitators a lunch break in the middle of the day. Remember to ensure the venue has AV including a projector to show the presentation and a screen if you wish to show the video. Think about participants with access requirements when choosing your venue – make sure it has a lift for wheelchair users and ideally a hearing loop for those with hearing impairments.

3. **Use RCPATH online resources** - Use the Your Body Your Consent resources and the more general **RCPATH event resources** to get ideas and extra support, and **request branded promotional materials** for your event; these are always really popular. You might also consider applying for funding for your event from the RCPATH **Public Engagement Innovation Grant Scheme**, which offers grants of up to £1000 for pathology-related public engagement projects; the scheme runs annually. **Request RCPATH careers leaflets and other branded freebies** to give to the students. If you want to take photos make sure you use the College's photo consent form, which you can download from the **event organisers' page** of the RCPATH website.
4. **Find facilitators** - Contact the public engagement team at the Royal College of Pathologists to ask them to send an email out to members living in the region of your event, stating how many facilitators you will need and the times they will be needed from and to. You can also invite colleagues to help out – the session has been run successfully with both pathologist facilitators and with others who work in relevant roles (e.g. biomedical scientists).
Once you have recruited your facilitators send them the briefing materials (**download from the YBYC page**) by email and make sure you include all of the vital information about directions and timings. Build in at least half an hour for briefing facilitators and a half an hour after that for student registration before the actual workshop starts.
5. **Invite schools** - Recruiting school students can be challenging as teachers do not have much time to answer phone calls or emails. Contacting your nearest **STEM Learning hub** and asking them to contact schools in the area is a good idea. A template email you can use to promote the event to local schools is below. You could also try phoning the head of sixth or the head of science at a school – remember to mention that the workshop will be useful experience to add to UCAS forms, and that the students can attend without teacher supervision if the school allows. Collect names, and ideally direct email addresses of students on a spreadsheet or via an online booking system such as **Eventbrite**. Schools should also be sent the pre-event information (**download from the YBYC page**), ideally a week before they attend.

Don't forget the coffee!

Coffee and tea for facilitators on arrival is always a good idea! If facilitators are doing two sessions it is a nice idea to provide them with a sandwich lunch or similar. As the workshop is only two hours long you won't need to feed students but provide water for everyone if you can.

Materials needed to run the workshop

- Discussion cards (**download and print from the YBYC page**)
- Presentation and quiz on memory stick (**download and print from the YBYC page**)
- Green and red cards for the introductory quiz (these can be made from red and green paper bought online)
- Prize for the introductory quiz (e.g. box of sweets)
- RCPATH promotional materials including careers leaflets (**request on the RCPATH website**)
- Name stickers for volunteers and students
- A list of the students attending (both sessions if running two sessions)
- GDPR-compliant photography consent form (**can be downloaded from the RCPATH website**)
- A list of the facilitators joining and their contact numbers
- Briefing information for volunteers and their mobile numbers
- Venue information including contact details

Ask the venue to provide:

- Chairs for all facilitators and students that can be moved from a theatre-style set-up to group discussions
- Laptop, projector and screen to show presentation
- Refreshments for facilitators (tea, coffee and lunch for facilitators, water for all)
- Tables for registration, promotional materials and one for laying out discussion cards.

Example timetable for two 2-hour Your Body Your Consent workshop sessions

Morning session

10.15 - 10.30	Registration
10.30 – 10.50	Welcome and opening activity
10.55 – 11.00	The students will split into groups
11.00 – 11.55	Group sessions
11.55 – 12.00	The students will return the lecture theatre
12.00 – 12.25	Closing discussion and Q&A session*
12.25 – 12.30	Evaluation and close

Afternoon session

13.15 – 13.30	Registration
13.30 – 13.50	Welcome and opening activity
13.55 – 14.00	The students will split into groups
14.00 – 14.55	Group sessions
14.55 – 15.00	The students will return the lecture theatre
15.00 – 15.25	Closing discussion and Q&A session*
15.25 – 15.30	Evaluation and close

Group locations and questions

Each group can be given 2 of the discussion cards to consider. We suggest you spend about 25 minutes on each but feel free to modify this as you see fit. Have the full range of discussion cards printed and available so that additional questions can be discussed by groups who move through their discussions of the first two questions quickly.

Email to schools template

Email subject line: *Free ethics workshops for schools in Nottingham area*

Your Body, Your Consent workshop

Xxxx date, xxx time

Xxx location

Suitable for A-level students

Dear Head of Science/ Head of Sixth Form (or named contact if available)

The Royal College of Pathologists is running our popular Your Body, Your Consent? biomedical ethics workshop for sixth formers at xxxxx on xxxx.

These free half-day workshops are aimed at A-level biology and chemistry students and introduces them to pathology and its ethical implications, allowing them to share their views on controversial topics such as organ donation, consent and the use of human tissue in research.

Facilitated by pathologists, your students will have the opportunity to consider different perspectives, which have been taken from a range of sources including the public, pathologists, other medical professionals, legislative bodies and the media, as well as to share their views on controversial topics. Previous participants have said the session has provided valuable experience that they have been able to include on UCAS forms etc.

Places are free but limited; please email xxxxx as soon as possible and state the number of student places you would like to book, and if you would like to book places for the morning (10:30 – 12:30), or for the afternoon (13:30 – 15:30).

If the school allows, students can attend the workshop without the need for a member of school staff accompanying them.

Feel free to get in touch with any questions.

Thank you, we hope to see some of your students at this really valuable workshop.

Best wishes

XXXXXXXX

Evaluation questions

To find out how you might improve things for a future YBYC workshop, and/or to gain some understanding on the impact of the session on participants consider asking both students and facilitators to fill in a short survey. You can do this at the end of the session if there is time, or by email.

Student survey

This short survey can be run on Survey Monkey or Google Forms and responses can be collected as students are leaving.

1. On a scale of 1 to 5 how much did you enjoy Your Body Your Consent?
2. On a scale of 1 to 5 how much did you learn today?
3. What did you learn?
4. Any other comments?

Dear Head of Science/ Head of Sixth Form (or named contact if available)

This short survey can be sent to facilitators by email when you write to them to thank them for their time.

5. On a scale of 1 to 5 how was your experience volunteering with us on the Your Body Your Consent workshop?
6. What did you enjoy most about the event?
7. How prepared did you feel before the event?
 - Fully prepared
 - Somewhat prepared
 - Not very prepared
 - Not at all prepared
8. How could we have made the briefing better?
9. Would you volunteer for an event like this again?
10. Any other comments?