**Informed Consent Form**

**Introduction**

You are invited to participate in a survey about the experiences and needs of young patients living with Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD). This study is being conducted by EFCCA in collaboration with Gastroenterology - Hepatology Department, Second Propedeutic Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Hippokration Hospital, and its goal is to gather valuable insights to improve patient support, awareness, and advocacy.

Before you decide whether to participate, please read this form carefully. It explains the purpose of the study, what your participation involves, potential risks and benefits, and your rights as a participant.

**Purpose of the Study**

The purpose of this survey is to better understand the challenges, needs, and perspectives of young individuals living with IBD. The information collected will be used to inform policies, support services, and future advocacy efforts.

**What Participation Involves**

The survey will take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. Questions will focus on your experiences with IBD, medical care, daily life, and support needs. Your participation is voluntary. No identifying information (such as name, address, or medical record number) will be collected.

**Potential Risks**

No risks are associated with the participation in this study. If you experience discomfort, you may stop the survey at any time.

**Potential Benefits**

While there is no direct benefit to you, your participation will contribute to improving awareness and support for young IBD patients.

**Confidentiality and Data Protection**

Your responses will be anonymous. Data will be securely stored and only accessible to the research team.

**Voluntary Participation and Withdrawal**

Participation is completely voluntary. You can withdraw at any time without any consequences.

**Questions and Contact Information**

If you have any questions about the study, your rights as a participant, or if you need any clarification, please contact: vaso.vakoufti@efcca.org