# AHRQ Publishing and Communications Guidelines

# Talent Release Form

## Instructions

This Talent Release Form must be completed by people hired as narrators, actors, or extras for a scripted video or audio production or for a photo shoot. This definition includes paid and unpaid talent—anyone who will be recognizable in the final product. It also includes employees (such as hospital or office workers) who may be visible in the background. Completed release forms are recommended for people whose video appearances are possible but uncertain in the final product.

Contractors may use their own talent release form if it includes essential elements found in AHRQ’s Talent Release Form. If actors are being paid for their work, the amount of compensation should be specified. AHRQ requires talent agreements that do not expire and do convey worldwide rights in perpetuity to AHRQ (not the Contractor).

If actors are represented by a talent agency, union, or other organization, the representative’s contract may substitute for the AHRQ release form if it states that the actors are being paid for “worldwide rights in perpetuity.” That is, the AHRQ Talent Release Form must be signed by the talent, but the terms are not needed if they are included in a separate contract. In that case, the completed AHRQ Talent Release Form should indicate that the talent will be paid by their named talent agency for worldwide rights in perpetuity, that the talent’s agency will be paid by AHRQ’s Contractor, and that neither the talent nor talent agency will bill AHRQ directly.

This form may be used for other types of products (specify Type of Product where noted).

The rights granted in this agreement by the talent to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), its assignees, and successors shall extend in perpetuity. This clause ensures that AHRQ retains the ability to use the materials, including video, audio, and photographic content featuring the talent, indefinitely. This perpetual license covers all forms of media, existing or subsequently developed, globally.

Granting rights in perpetuity gives AHRQ flexibility in content development and enables AHRQ to maintain a library of content that can be adapted and reused to meet AHRQ’s evolving needs.

Rights in perpetuity:

* Ensure long-term rights management. AHRQ can manage content rights for an indefinite time, reducing legal complexities and potential challenges related to copyright and reuse.
* Facilitate content adaptation and reuse. As educational and promotional strategies evolve, AHRQ retains the ability to repurpose content without restriction, supporting ongoing and future projects effectively.
* Avoid renegotiation processes. Long-term agreements eliminate the need for periodic renegotiations of rights, streamlining administrative processes and focusing resources on content development and deployment.

**Talent Release Form**

**Agency for Healthcare Research Quality (AHRQ)  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

**Project Name: [add project name here]**

**Type of Product: [video, audio production, still photography, virtual performance]**

**Name of Video: [if different from project name, add the name of the video here]**

**Note:** When given a choice between “my” and “my minor child” (or similar wording), delete the text for the item you do not choose, along with any brackets.

I hereby grant to the Agency for Healthcare Research Quality (“AHRQ”) and [list any other offices or partners if working under a partnership] their assignees, successors, and those acting in pursuant to their authority, permission and worldwide rights in perpetuity to:

1. Record my participation [the participation of the minor child in my control] and appearance on video, audio, file, or photograph, on real or digital or other medium.
2. Use my [my minor child’s] name, likeness, voice, CV, and biographical material in connection with or promotion of this production. In addition, nothing shall require AHRQ to use my [my minor child’s] name, likeness, or voice in any manner.
3. Exhibit, broadcast, cablecast, webcast, store and forward, copy, edit, and/or distribute such recording in whole or in part without restriction or limitation for any educational, commercial, or promotional purpose that AHRQ, its assignees, successors, and those acting pursuant to its authority, deem appropriate.
4. (a) No royalties or residuals will be paid to me [on behalf of my minor child for] my [my minor child’s] participation. [Include only if providing nonmonetary compensation] I will receive nonmonetary or promotional consideration only.  
   **OR**  
   (b) No royalties or residuals will be paid to me, but I will be paid a fee of $XX for my participation.
5. Modify, adjust, or alter my [my minor child’s] likeness using generative AI technologies currently in existence or to be developed in the future, to create variations of imagery for specific uses as determined by AHRQ. Alteration may include but is not limited to changes to facial expressions, aging, de-aging, and generative fill or other digital enhancements for creative or technical purposes. AHRQ will not alter images in a manner that may be considered lewd, is illegal, or is otherwise inappropriate (e.g., medical procedures in which the person is nude or partially nude).
6. I hereby waive any right to inspect and approve the rough cut, promotional, or finished product.

I warrant that I am over the age of 18 and that I am free to enter into this Agreement [on behalf of my minor child].

[If a minor is used, a parent or guardian should sign on behalf of the minor. Unless the participating minor cannot write, the minor also must sign the release form.]

By signing this release, I hereby agree to hold AHRQ harmless from and indemnify against any and all claims, liabilities, losses, or damages that may arise from my participation in this production.

Signature (sign or type name or insert image):

Printed Name:

Address:

Phone Number (include )area code) Email:

Date signed: