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### Efficacy of Marketing Strategy for REACH Vitamins

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# Efficacy of Marketing Strategy for REACH Vitamins

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### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

### Background

There has always been a need for the use of marketing to help sell products. From making a product more known to the public through advertising or designing the package or slogan used for a product, marketing is about helping meet the wants and needs of the customers. <sup>1,2</sup> REACH Vitamins is a for-profit business that provides vitamins to children in underdeveloped countries to build their immune systems.<sup>3</sup>

### Significance of the Problem

- •More than 30% of children in the US take dietary supplements regularly.<sup>4</sup>
- •52% of adults reported taking a dietary supplement within the past month.<sup>5</sup>
- •Vitamin A supplementation decreases anemia in vitamin A deficient children.<sup>6</sup>

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Objective 1 is to determine if there is a more appropriate marketing strategy for REACH Vitamins compared to the current marketing strategy used.
- Objective 2 is to determine if REACH Vitamins' charitable aspects motivate consumers to purchase them.

### **HYPOTHESES**

### **Hypotheses for Objective 1:**

- $\bullet$  H<sub>o</sub>: There is not a more appropriate marketing strategy for REACH Vitamins compared to the current marketing strategy.
- H<sub>A</sub>: There is a more appropriate marketing strategy for REACH Vitamins compared to the current marketing strategy.

### Hypotheses for Objective 2:

- $\bullet$  H<sub>O</sub>: The charitable aspects of REACH Vitamins do not motivate customers to purchase them.
- H<sub>A</sub>: The charitable aspects of REACH Vitamins motivate customers to purchase them.

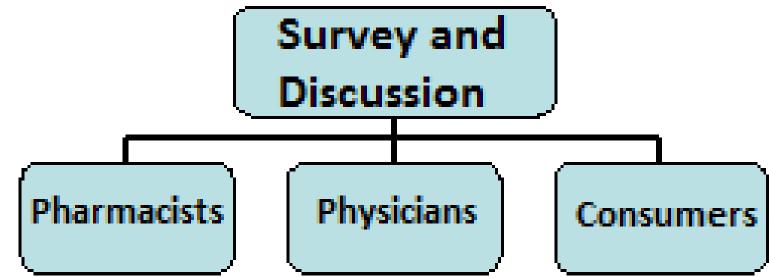
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- 2. Crisholm-Burns MA, Vaillancourt AM, Shepherd, M. *Pharmacy Management, Leadership, Marketing, and Finance*. Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning, 2014
- 3. REACH. Available at: <a href="http://www.thereachinitiative.com">http://www.thereachinitiative.com</a>. Accessed September 30, 2013.
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- 5. Radimer K, Bindewald B, Hughes J, Ervin B, Swanson C, Picciano MF. Dietary supplement use by US adults: data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, 1999-2000. Am J Epidemiol. 2004;160(4):339-49.
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### PROPOSED METHODS

### **Study Design**

- Pharmacists and consumers interviewed in focus groups
- Physicians interviewed individually
- Participants given survey and led into discussion to discuss improvements to vitamin product



### Sample

- Physicians at local hospitals and clinics
- Precepting pharmacists of Cedarville University students will be targeted for enrollment into focus groups
- Consumers from local pharmacies, churches, and college campuses

### **Data Collection**

- Upon enrollment, the individuals will be given a demographics survey.
- Notes will be taken during the focus groups along with recordings using the Livescribe recording devices.
- The data program NVivo will be used to determine the results from the focus groups.

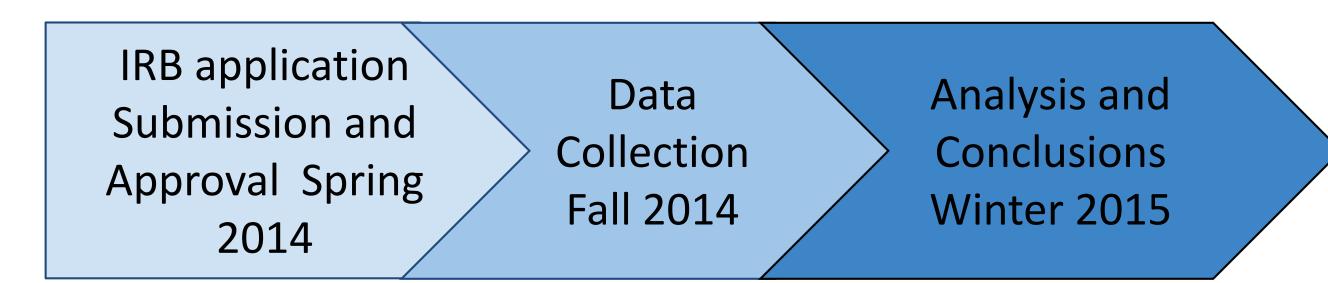
### Measurement

- Collected comments categorized by group
- Responses in focus groups and interviews will be recorded using Livescribe
- Questionnaire will be given at focus groups and interviews

## STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

• Qualitative data will be analyzed with the Nvivo program to determine themes from the responses and to establish frequency

# PROJECT TIMELINE



### LIMITATIONS

- Limited geographical area for sampling.
- Small sample size
- Inter-focus group variability

# **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

Future studies that include a larger sample that has a diverse geographic representation.

A study on the impact of marketing changes made through this study.