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An Assessment of the Spanish-Language Oregon Medicaid Health Risk and Health Status Survey (OMHRHSS)

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**AN ASSESSMENT OF THE
SPANISH-LANGUAGE OREGON
MEDICAID HEALTH RISK AND
HEALTH STATUS SURVEY
(OMHRHSS)**

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PROJECT PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW

- **ASSESS VALIDITY OF SPANISH VERSION OF OMHRHSS**
- **WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “VALIDITY”**
- **WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**
- **PREVIOUS RESEARCH ON TRANSLATIONS OF HEALTH SURVEYS**

SAMPLE

- **ENROLLED IN OHP**
- **SPANISH-SPEAKERS WITH ASTHMA OR DIABETES**
- **18 YEARS AND OLDER**
- **CONTACTED 50 INDIVIDUALS**
- **SAMPLE SIZE: 20**
- **\$20 INCENTIVE TO PARTICIPATE**

METHODS

- **TWO TRAINED SPANISH/ENGLISH BILINGUAL BICULTURAL INTERVIEWERS**
- **COGNITIVE TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS**
- **TECHNIQUES TO ASSESS RESPONDENTS' UNDERSTANDING OF SURVEY**

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS (N=20)

- **60% FEMALE**

- **AGE DISTRIBUTION:**

18-35: 20%

36-45: 10%

46-65: 40%

>65: 30%

- **EDUCATION:**

< HIGH SCHOOL: 95%

HIGH SCHOOL: 5%

- **CHRONIC
CONDITION:**

ASTHMA: 40%

DIABETES: 55%

BOTH: 5%

MAIN GENERAL FINDINGS

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

- Introduction:

Who is doing the survey?

Concepts of “Voluntary” and “Confidential”

- Conditions of Interview

- Problem of Cell Phones

- Gender Matching of Interviewer and Respondent: Essential

- Interview is too long → Respondent Fatigue

MAIN GENERAL FINDINGS

TRANSLATION AND COMPREHENSIBILITY

- **Reading Level is Too Advanced**
- **Lack of Comprehension of Adjectival Rating Scales**
- **Too Many Response Options**
- **Poor Placement of Highly Sensitive Family Planning Questions and Other Modules**
- **Health Care Providers: “Medico”**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 1: HEALTH STATUS

The following questions are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does your health now limit you in these activities? Moderate activities, such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner or grocery shopping. Are you...
Limited a lot /Limited a little /Not limited at all

- **Gender Appropriateness of Examples**
- **What Does “Moderate” (“moderadas”) Mean?**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 2: HEALTH STATUS

The next four questions are about any problems you may have had with your work or other regular daily activities during the past four weeks.) Have you accomplished less than you would like because of **EMOTIONAL** problems?

Yes /No/Don't know

- “Emotional Problems” (“problemas emocionales”)?”
- “Accomplished less than you would like”?

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 3: HEALTH STATUS

These questions are about how you feel and how things have been with you during the past 4 weeks. For each question, please give the one answer that comes closest to the way you have been feeling. How much of the time during the past 4 weeks have you felt calm and peaceful?

- All of the Time
 - Most of the Time
 - A Good Bit of the Time
 - Some of the Time
 - A Little Bit of the Time
 - None of the Time
 - Don't know / Not sure
-
- Question is Too long
 - Too Many Response Options
 - Translation of “calm and peaceful” (“tranquilo/a y sosegado/a”)

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 4: HEALTH CARE ACCESS

Do you have one person you think of as your personal doctor or health care provider?

- Yes, only one
- More than one
- No
- Don't know

Was there a time in the last 6 months when you needed medical care but did NOT get it?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

● **100% responded “yes” and “no”, respectively**

● **Problems with “Personal doctor or health care provider”**

● **Confidentiality**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 5: PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Now, think about the moderate activities you do (when you are not working). In a usual week, do you do moderate activities for at least 10 minutes at a time, such as brisk walking, bicycling, vacuuming, gardening, or anything else that causes some increase in breathing or heart rate? Yes/No/Don't Know

On days when you do moderate activities for at least 10 minutes at a time, how much total time per day do you spend doing these activities?

- **__:__ __ Hours and minutes per day**
- **Long and difficult questions with complex calculation**
- **Difficult to distinguish non-work from work activities**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 6: PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Now thinking about the vigorous activities you do (when you are not working). In a usual week, do you do vigorous activities for at least 10 minutes such as running, aerobics, heavy yard work, or anything else that causes large increases in breathing or heart rate?

Yes/No/Don't Know/Not Sure/Refused

- Vigorous activities causing large increases in breathing (“causa cierto aumento en la respiración o el ritmo cardíaco”) → connotations of sexual activities

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 7: ASTHMA

Symptoms of asthma include cough, wheezing, shortness of breath, chest tightness and phlegm production when you don't have a cold or respiratory infection. During the past 4 weeks, how often did you have any symptoms of asthma? Would you say never, less than once a week, once or twice a week, more than 2 times a week, but not every day, every day, but not all the time, or every day, all the time?

- Not at any time
- Less than once a week
- Once or twice a week
- More than 2 times a week, but not every day
- Every day, but not all the time
- Every day, all the time
- Don't know / Not sure

- Question is Too Long and Can be Confusing
- Too Many Response Options

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 8: DIABETES

About how often do you check your feet for any sores or irritations? Include times when checked by a family member or friend, but do not include times when checked by a health professional.

A test for "A one C" measures the average level of blood sugar over the past three months. About how many times in the past 12 months has a doctor, nurse, or other health professional checked you for "A one C"?

Have you ever attended any formal diabetes education session, either classes or one-on-one training with a diabetes educator?

- **Translations of “sores, wounds, or irritations”**
- **Don’t understand “A one C”**
- **Don’t understand “diabetes education session”**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 9: PROSTATE CANCER SCREENING

A digital rectal exam is an exam in which a doctor, nurse or other health professional places a gloved finger into the rectum to feel the size, shape, and hardness of the prostate gland. Have you ever had a digital rectal exam?

- Yes**
 - No**
 - Don't know / Not sure**
-
- Highly Sensitive Question**
 - Gender Matching is Critical**

SPECIFIC EXAMPLE 10: FAMILY PLANNING

Thinking back to just before you got pregnant with your current pregnancy, how did you feel about becoming pregnant? Would you say . . .

INTERVIEWER: PLEASE READ

- You wanted to be pregnant sooner (END)
 - You wanted to be pregnant later (END)
 - You wanted to be pregnant then (END)
 - You didn't want to be pregnant then or at anytime in the future (END)
 - Don't Know/ Not sure
-
- Poor placement of highly sensitive family planning questions at end of survey

RECOMMENDATIONS I

- **Introduction:**
 - Clearer**
 - Confidentiality**
 - Voluntary Participation**
- **Add Brief introduction for Each Module**
- **Reduce Number of Response Options**
- **Gender Matching of Respondent and Interviewer**

RECOMMENDATIONS II

- **Move “Family Planning” and Demographics Section**
- **Use “medico” instead of “doctor, nurse, or other health professional or health care provider”**
- **Revise and Further Test OMHRHSS**
 - **Trained Translators for Forward and Back Translation**
 - **Review by Panel of Experts**
 - **Additional Cognitive Testing**

REPORT ON ASSESSMENT OF SPANISH-LANGUAGE OREGON MEDICAID HEALTH RISK AND HEALTH STATUS SURVEY (OMHRHSS)

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- **BACKGROUND**
- **MISSION AND GOALS**
- **STAFF AND OPERATION**
- **SOME CURRENT ACTIVITIES**
- **FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS**