

rATA Ethical Considerations

rATA Master Training | Wesley Pryor



Lesson outcomes: Ethics considerations

After this lesson,
you will:

UNDERSTAND & DEMONSTRATE ETHICAL PRINCIPLES FOR A RATA

Lesson time

>~50 minutes

Competencies and
behaviours

**Understands and demonstrates the core principles of ethical
conduct of collecting information**

- >Respect for participants and their communities
- >Understanding consent
- >Being fair; Doing no harm

Extensions

>rATA design and approvals

Other resources

>Information sheets if applicable



7.0 – Scope of this lesson

Notes for survey coordinators:

- > Depending on the local survey permissions and approaches, ethical considerations will affect survey administration differently.
- > In particular *providing information and getting consent* might be different for enumerators.
- > Different levels of permissions and partnerships will affect survey planning
- > This lesson is aimed at enumerators and provides a recommended minimum level of knowledge about ethical survey conduct



7.6a – Skill check

Trainer:

 STOP

Discuss this
scenario, and write
some possible
responses

> Consider the following situation:

> You are assigned to survey the western section of a village, and meet with the head of the village to update her on your presence. ***She suggests you survey the eastern section of the village, not the western, because she knows there are at least 4 people over there who probably need an assistive product.***

> ***What will you do?***



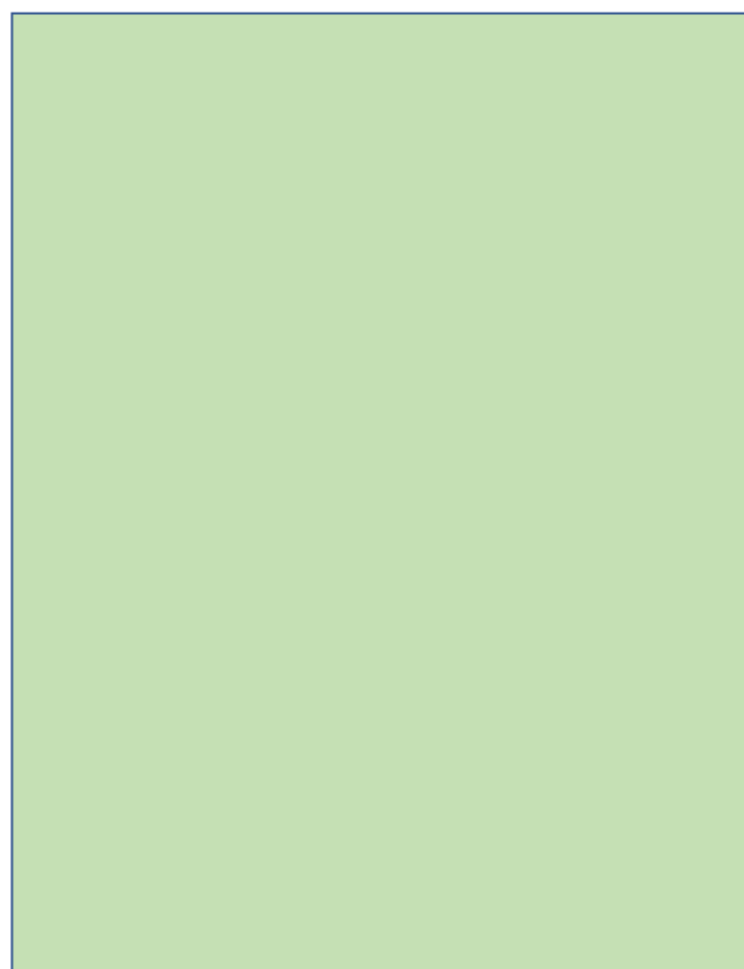
7.6a – Skill check

STOP

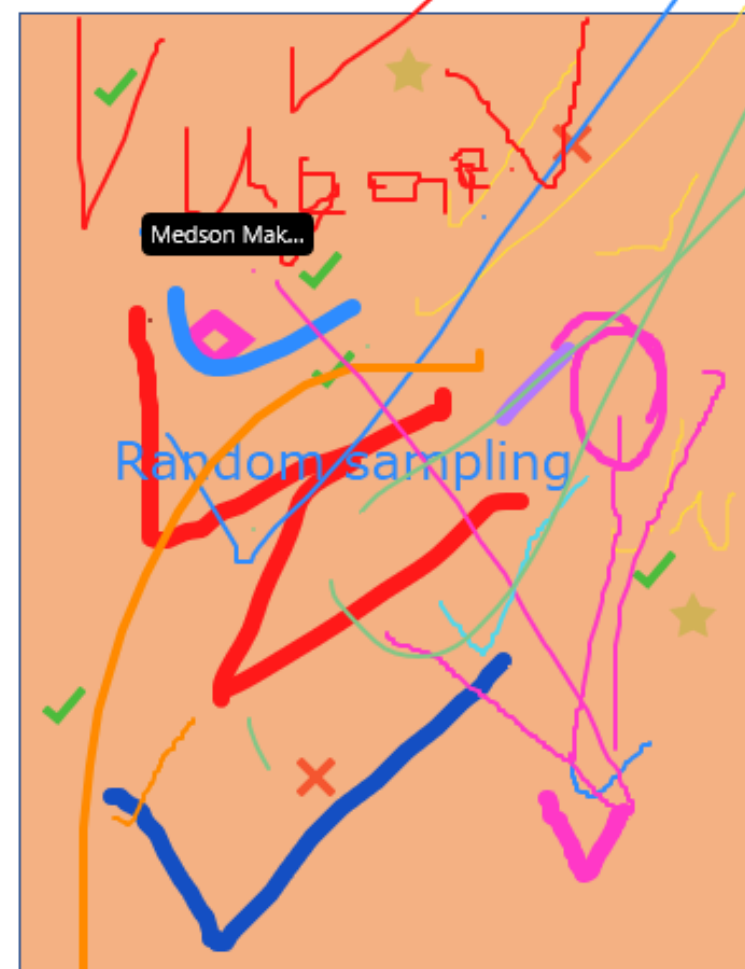
Select your answer – put a sticky note on the wall in the box

(we, take a screen shot)

a) Take her advice



b) Do not take her advice and explain why not



c) Other



7.1 – What we already know about ethical conduct

Trainer:

> Discuss

Guided discussion

- > Who in the team has been involved in this work before, and what can you tell us?
- > What do you think are the main ethical risks of the rATA?



7.2 – Some rATA risks

Trainer:

Guided discussion.
For each point,
discuss examples,
and possible
implications

**Even a simple survey
like the rATA has risks**

- > Some people may be distressed by **talking about difficulties** they have
- > We might **raise expectations** about services people might want, without having any means to provide services
- > We take **time** out of people's day to conduct our survey
- > We might **remind people of the difficulties** getting basic services
- > We might **reveal functional problems** people did not realise they had before
- > We **cannot survey everyone**
- > **Other issues** related to working in communities



7.3 – key ethical principles

Trainer:

Guided discussion.
For each point,
discuss examples,
and possible
implications

- > **Consent:** participation is voluntary based on *informed consent*
- > **EVERYONE** (is asked whether they want to participate directly)
 - > Children – ask a parent or carer as well as the child
 - > People who have difficulty understanding the survey/consent – ask directly, take time, ask questions, ask family/carers (to be continued in a separate session)
- > **Respect:** Everyone has value, can make decisions, has their own views about the world
- > **Merit:** What we are doing (our survey) has value, and is worth the cost and potential risks. We have done our best to ensure the quality and efficiency of our work
- > **Justice:** We are fair in selecting who to survey (and who we won't survey), and how people can benefit from our information
- > **Beneficence:** we do our best so that burden is minimised, and we aim to improve the situation.



7.4a – informed consent

Trainer:

Document your discussion about how the principle can be demonstrated in practice

> **Consent: participation is voluntary based on *informed consent***

- > All the information about the survey is public and can be shared
- > There is no rush: take time to answer questions

The exact method for gaining consent may differ for different countries/contexts



7.4c – respect

Trainer:



Document your discussion about how the principle can be demonstrated in practice

- > **Respect:** Everyone has value, can make decisions, has their own views about the world
 - > **How can you demonstrate respect**
 - > **a) in the community**

- > **B) when you are conducting interviews**



7.4b – respect

How did you go?

> **Respect:** Everyone has value, can make decisions, has their own views about the world

> **How can you demonstrate respect**

> **a) in the community**

Behaving professionally and respectfully with community members

Minimising the impact and disturbance to the community

Listen to and take guidance from the people you talk to about their community: including in mapping, where to go in the community

Understanding and valuing local customs

> **B) when you are conducting interviews**

Understand and respect privacy, and that not everyone will want to participate

Be conscious of the risk, however minor it might seem

Understand people have capabilities, and express them in various ways

Understand people may not understand our intent, and providing them with the best information possible



7.5a – Merit

Trainer:

 STOP

Document your discussion about how the principle can be demonstrated in practice

- > **Merit:** What we are doing (our survey) has value, and is worth the cost and potential risks. We have done our best to ensure the quality and efficiency of our work
 - > **Recall previous lessons about the potential value of the rATA? What are some of its limitations?**

- > **What are some of the ways this survey tries to be a) as efficient as possible and b) minimises risks**



7.5b – Merit

How did you go?

Think about each of these points?

Recall information from day 2 about getting information about services & stakeholders

> **Merit:** What we are doing (our survey) has value, and is worth the cost and potential risks. We have done our best to ensure the quality and efficiency of our work

> **Recall previous lessons about the potential value of the rATA? What are some of its limitations?**

Provide information to stakeholders

Determine how many people need services

Determine how people currently get services

Help raise the profile of AT

What others can you think of?

> **What are some of the ways this survey tries to be a) as efficient as possible and b) minimises risks**

We use a sample of the population where possible

The rATA is as short as possible

We conduct ourselves as ethically as we can

We make sure people don't have to participate if they don't want to

We work to understand potential harms and to address them



7.6a – Skill check

Trainer:

 STOP

Discuss this
scenario, and write
some possible
responses

> Consider the following situation:

> You are assigned to survey the western section of a village, and meet with the head of the village to update her on your presence. ***She suggests you survey the eastern section of the village, not the western, because she knows there are at least 4 people over there who probably need an assistive product.***

> ***What will you do?***



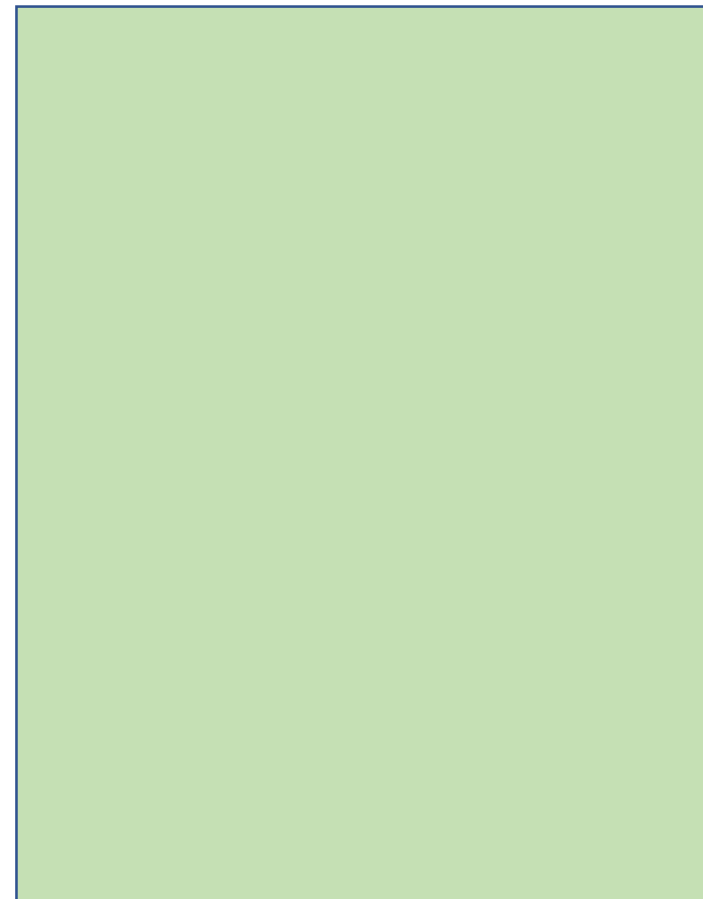
7.6a – Skill check



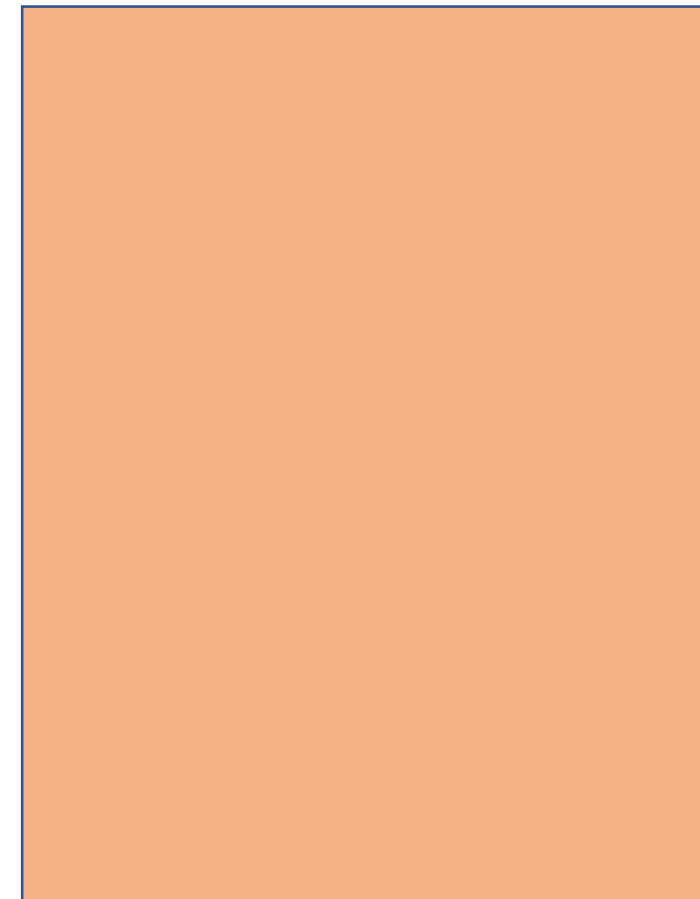
STOP

Select your answer – put a sticky note on the wall in the box

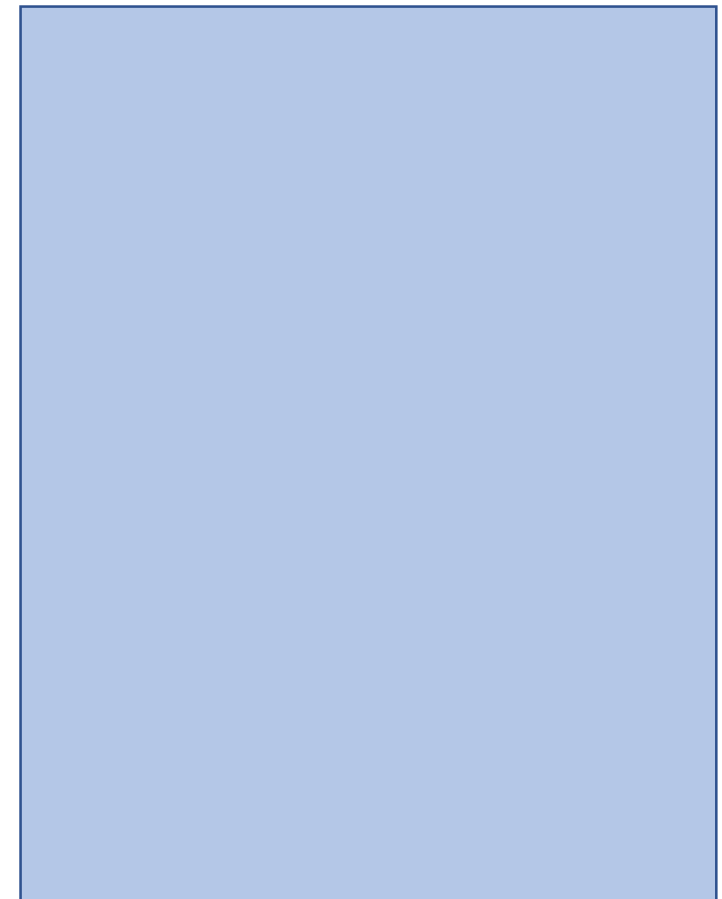
a) Take her advice



b) Do not take her advice and explain why not



c) Other



7.6b – Skill check

How did you go?

Think about each of these suggestions.

> Consider the following situation:

> You are assigned to survey the western section of a village, and meet with the head of the village to update her on your presence. ***She suggests you survey the eastern section of the village, not the western, because she knows there are at least 4 people over there who probably need an assistive product.***

> ***What will you do?***

Understand and respect that the village head has knowledge, information, and is trying to help

Provide information about the survey sample – discuss with coordinator if further issues

Discuss other ways to provide information to the people she is thinking about

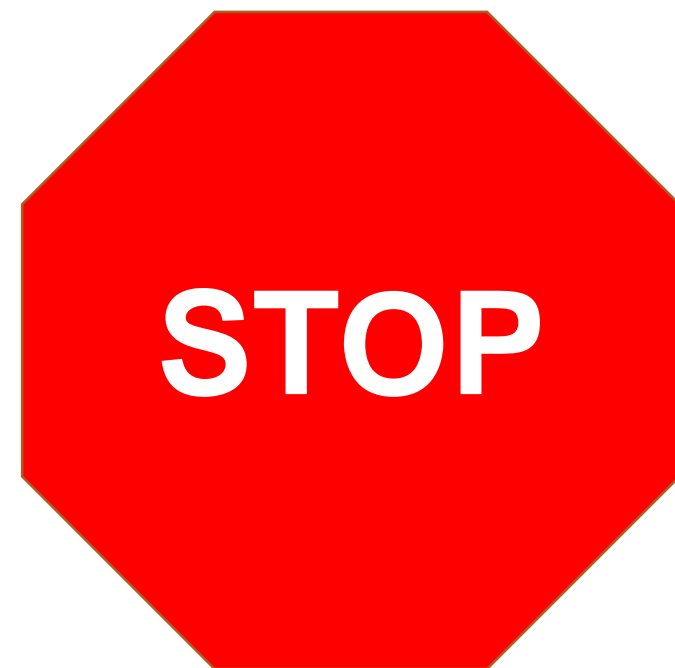
Highlight how information about the survey will be shared with the community and local authorities



7.x – Ethics quiz

Participants, note your answers

TRUE or FALSE



The rATA has no risks to participants

☐ TRUE

☐ FALSE

There are no DIRECT benefits of participating in a rATA

☐ TRUE

☐ FALSE

It is OK to assume consent if people are friendly and happy to answer questions

☐ TRUE

☐ FALSE

Once someone starts a rATA, they must finish it

☐ TRUE

☐ FALSE

rATA participants should get priority treatment in AP facilities

☐ TRUE

☐ FALSE



7.x – Ethics quiz

Participants, note your answers

The rATA has no risks to participants

✓ FALSE

There are no DIRECT benefits of participating in a rATA

✓ TRUE

How did you go

It is OK to assume consent if people are friendly and happy to answer questions

✓ FALSE

Once someone starts a rATA, they must finish it

✓ FALSE

rATA participants should get priority treatment in AP facilities

✓ FALSE



7.x – Ethics quiz

There are almost always minor risks of surveys. It can be distressing to talk about difficulties and barriers to services, for example.

The rATA has no risks to participants

✓ FALSE

There are no DIRECT benefits of participating in a rATA

✓ TRUE

It is OK to assume consent if people are friendly and happy to answer questions

✓ FALSE

Once someone starts a rATA, they must finish it

✓ FALSE

rATA participants should get
priority treatment in AP facilities

✓ FALSE



7.x – Ethics quiz

rATA participants don't receive any direct benefits, but there are *indirect* benefits that are important.

The rATA has no risks to participants

✓ FALSE

There are no DIRECT benefits of participating in a rATA

✓ TRUE

It is OK to assume consent if people are friendly and happy to answer questions

✓ FALSE

Once someone starts a rATA, they must finish it

✓ FALSE

rATA participants should get priority treatment in AP facilities

✓ FALSE



7.x – Ethics quiz

Participants, note your answers

Everyone needs to be asked directly if they wish to complete the survey

The rATA has no risks to participants

✓ FALSE

There are no DIRECT benefits of participating in a rATA

✓ TRUE

It is OK to assume consent if people are friendly and happy to answer questions

✓ FALSE

Once someone starts a rATA, they must finish it

✓ FALSE

rATA participants should get priority treatment in AP facilities

✓ FALSE



7.x – Ethics quiz

Participants, note your answers

TRUE or FALSE

People can quit the survey at any point

The rATA has no risks to participants

✓ FALSE

There are no DIRECT benefits of participating in a rATA

✓ TRUE

It is OK to assume consent if people are friendly and happy to answer questions

✓ FALSE

Once someone starts a rATA, they must finish it

✓ FALSE

rATA participants should get priority treatment in AP facilities

✓ FALSE



7.x – Ethics quiz

Participants, note your answers

TRUE or FALSE

There are no direct benefits or preferences for service/s

The rATA has no risks to participants

✓ FALSE

There are no DIRECT benefits of participating in a rATA

✓ TRUE

It is OK to assume consent if people are friendly and happy to answer questions

✓ FALSE

Once someone starts a rATA, they must finish it

✓ FALSE

rATA participants should get priority treatment in AP facilities

✓ FALSE

