

Cognitive testing of a survey instrument to assess sexual practices, behaviours, and health-related outcomes

Current Project Brief

Objectives and Background

This is a qualitative study including cognitive testing of a draft sexual health instrument among members of the general population in 20 low, middle, and high-income countries globally. The selection of the countries included a joint process with the HRP Alliance through an open call for proposals for country implementation. The development of this instrument was a collaborative, transparent process drawing on the expertise of top researchers from all six WHO regions and using existing measures from validated survey tools. The goal of this study is to contribute to the development of a final instrument that can be easily adapted (and translated) with minimal content modifications between sites, so that data collected from different sites can be easily compared. An important step in this process is to ensure that the final instrument has global applicability and to establish the extent to which this *standard* instrument can be implemented with fidelity among general population groups worldwide. The study began data collection following three waves of data collection in early 2022 and is expected to finalize by December 2022.

Specific outputs include:

- A standard set of sexual practice-related measures that have been tested in different languages across a variety of geographic and cultural environments.
- A process for adapting the survey to a new setting (including translation), which can be replicated in the future by researchers wishing to incorporate the instrument into their sites.
- Recommended implementation ranges (for example, allowing HRP to indicate that the tool can be implemented in the general population among persons of a specific age group).

This study is being implemented with support from the HRP Alliance and has several research capacity strengthening components, including but not limited to having the HRP Alliance hubs implementing the studies and offering research leadership positions to junior faculty and staff, as well as embedding RCS training throughout.

Geographic location

Australia, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand, Uganda, Uruguay

Main deliverables

Journal articles detailing process of implementation and results, a final survey instrument to be implemented globally.

Sources of funding

HRP Alliance, HRP core funds

Date Issued

17 June 2022