Feasibility of Audio Computer Assisted Self-interviewing with Color-Coding and Helper Assistance (ACASI-H) for Survey Completion

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Background

- Racial and ethnic minorities experience health disparities.
- Increasing number of non-English literate older adults from collectivist cultures in the United States.
- Researchers and health care providers face challenges collecting health data from non-English literate older adults.
- More research is needed to develop culturally appropriate data collection tools.
- Sample rationale: Older Hmong
  - Collectivist culture
  - Migrant
  - Non-English speaking and non-literate in their first language

Data Collection Tool

- Qualtrics: 12-Item Short Form Health Survey (SF-12)

Results

- All 30 dyads completed the 13-item instrument with zero missing data
- ACASI-H completion time: between 11 and 50 minutes (average of 20 min)

Feasibility of ACASI-H

- Questions consistent with health experience
  - “Yes. It [referring to the questionnaire] is consistent for me. It is correct like the question asked.” (Elder 1)
- Interface is user friendly
  - “The volume is high enough, and I can listen to it.” (Elder 13)
- Lack computer experience
  - “I have never touched it [the laptop] before…I don’t even know where to start with touching it.” (Elder 2)

Feasibility of the Hmong Pre-Recorded Audio Translation of Questions

- 29 out of 30 (90%) used the Hmong translation
- Frequency of times the Hmong translation was played 8-13 (mean of 12)
- Translation was clear and understandable in the Hmong language
  - “The translation was clear” (Elder 1)

Acceptability of Response Categories Labeled With Color

- Pros
  - Useful substitution for words
  - Increase recall
- Cons
  - Cultural associations
  - Distracting
  - “I do like it [the colored response items]. If there is no colors then I wouldn’t know how to answer.” (Elder 27)

Acceptability of Family Member Inclusion

- Older Hmong confirmed family helper was helpful.
- Helper roles:
  - Assist in navigating the technology
  - Provide clarifications when older Hmong do not understand the question & color response categories
  - Help select most accurate response for each question

Discussion

- This mode of data collection was culturally and linguistically appropriate for both members of a family dyad, who differ in familiarity with the native (Hmong) language and comfort with technology and who live within a collectivist culture.
- Practice questions prior to taking the actual questionnaire may help familiarize older Hmong and reduce confusion for color coded response items