Using Audio Computer Self Interviews (ACASI) to Collect Sensitive Data

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Attention to IPV and Disability - A critical component of social determinants of health

- People with disabilities experience higher rates of typical IPV compared to adults without disabilities (emotional, physical, sexual violence).

- Compared to people without disabilities, people with disabilities are more likely to experience:
  - increased severity of IPV, and
  - multiple forms of and longer exposure to IPV.

- People with disabilities also experience disability-specific forms of IPV:
  - destruction of equipment / assistive devices
  - Withholding of needed care and/or medication

- Findings show that IPV negatively effects the capacities of people with disabilities to work, live independently, and maintain their health.
Social Context of Disability

Contextual issues experienced by people with disabilities, such as:

- increased poverty
- social isolation
- lack of relevant information about IPV and safety-planning
- lack of accessible services
- dependence on support providers
- not being believed by others when violence is disclosed
- risk of losing independence and children if reported

may marginalize them and make it more difficult and more dangerous for them to report IPV or seek support.
Conceptual Model – IPV + Disability

Demographics & Historical Variables

Psychological & Physical Health

Disability & Personal/Contextual Variables

Secondary Health Conditions

IPV
Audio Computer-Assisted Self-Interviews

- We used ACASIs to:
  1. create/administer two interpersonal violence (IPV) awareness and safety-planning programs (Women’s SSP and Men’s SSP);
  2. collect sensitive data from adults with disabilities about their physical and emotional health and experiences with IPV

- Compared to other data collection methods (paper-pencil / face-to-face), ACASIs provide higher rates of disclosure of sensitive data and are well received by participants.

- Mandatory reporting of abuse less likely with ACASI use

- Multiple accessibility features of ACASIs: Self-pacing; anonymity; font adjustment; text highlighting; choice of audio, ASL, or text; branching of items of survey sections
Benefits of using an ACASI

Findings from 3 studies (Violence ID / Women’s SSP / Partnering):

• The Women’s SSP ACASI increased abuse and safety awareness and self-efficacy, especially for women with minimal abuse history (Violence ID study).

• Participants positively received the ACASI as both an IPV awareness tool (Violence ID and Women’s SSP studies) and as a data collection tool (Partnering study).

• Wrap-up -- the Women’s and Men’s ACASIs are the first abuse and safety promotion tools created by and for women and men with disabilities. Use of technology – and specifically ACASIs – allow for the collection of sensitive data and increased understanding of SDH in the context of IPV and disability.

(show screen shots of Women’s SSP)