“Instrument Selection”
Richard Havlik, MD, MPH
Westat
October 27, 2008

Instrument Selection Process

Selection Criteria

- Applicable across the age span
- No intellectual property concerns
- Psychometrically sound
- Brief, easy to use
- Applicable in variety of settings and with different subgroups
- Preference for instruments already validated and normed for ages 3-85
**Test Selection Process**

- Candidate measures (Toolbox Library = 1,391) generated from literature review and expert input (requests for information, interviews, team meetings)
- Measures systematically reviewed

**Initial Exclusions (Cog)**

- Self-Report, Proxy (for adults), Clinician-Rated
- Commercial instruments (IP Rights/purchase required)
- Screening/global measures (e.g., “Brief” measures, anything that assesses impairment vs. non-impairment)
- Disease-or Population-Specific (e.g., Alzheimer’s, Aged/Elderly, etc.)

**Results of these Activities**

- Instrument recommendations for constructs
- Draft development plans established for about 50 different measures
The Process Continues...

- Instrument development
- Pre-testing and piloting of new items and instruments
- Concurrent validation of new instruments with industry “Gold Standards”
- Selection of final instruments for norming

Selection Challenges

- Most compatible for use in non-standard locations (Home)
- Dynamic/adaptable over time
- Stand-alone use by those selecting only some instruments
- Robust with ethnic and racial minorities

Additional Review

- Translatability (Spanish)
- Accessibility Issues (508)
- Pediatric Approach (Ages 3-6)
- Geriatric Needs (Ages 80-85)
- NIH Project Team Review (Contract)
Toolbox Criteria

- State of the Art
- Wide Age Span
- Valid & Reliable
- Ease of Administration

Toolbox Criteria

Cognition Instruments

- Executive Function
  - Flanker Task
  - Self-Ordered Point
  - Card Sorting
- Episodic Memory
  - Imitation-Based Assessment of Memory
- Processing Speed
  - Pattern Comp Task
- Attention
  - Flanker Task
- Working Memory
  - Complex Span Task

Toolbox Criteria

Emotion Instruments

- Positive Affect
  - Happiness
  - Life Satisfaction
  - Well-Being
- Negative Affect
  - Sadness
  - Fear
  - Anger
  - General Distress
  - Apathy
- Stress and Coping
  - Perceived Stress
  - Coping Strategy
  - Coping Self-efficacy
- Social Relationships
  - Social Support
  - Social Network
  - Integration
  - Loneliness
Conclusions

- A wide net was cast to identify potential instruments.
- Application of criteria & expert opinion narrowed the field.
- Many new or modified instruments became necessary.
- Pre-testing and piloting are refining these instruments.
- Extensive validation will result in final instruments.

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