

# Instrumentation Protocol Changes

The 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) instrumentation protocols underwent several modifications from the protocols employed for the 2011 NSDUH. A summary of the changes for the 2012 NSDUH can be divided into three topics: (1) the computer-assisted interviewing (CAI) screening instrument, (2) the CAI questionnaire, and (3) the interviewer materials.

## 1. Screening Instrument

Using the 2011 Screening Application as a base, no changes were made to the 2012 Screening Application other than updating dates.

## 2. CAI Questionnaire

Using the 2011 CAI Questionnaire as a base, questions and routing were modified for the 2012 CAI Questionnaire. Listed below are the CAI Questionnaire changes for 2012:

- The CAI instrument version was updated in the Introduction section.
- CGREF5, which is asked of respondents who refuse to answer an initial item about smoking tobacco in a pipe in the tobacco module, was edited. As opposed to asking respondents if they have ever smoked a pipe, the question now asks if they have ever smoked *tobacco in a pipe*.
- Added new morphine dosages to Box 11 of Pillcard A that accompanies questions in the Pain Relievers module.
- State program names for Medicaid, CHIP and TANF in the Health Insurance and Income modules were updated.

## 3. Interviewer Materials

The 2012 interviewer materials and protocols for using those materials were based on the 2011 interviewer materials and protocols. In addition to minor wording revisions and year updates (2011 to 2012), the following changes were made for the 2012 interviewer materials:

- The Quality Control Forms and Reference Date Calendars were printed on peach-colored paper in 2012.
- The shading in the month and date fields [MM/DD] in the interviewer portion of the Quality Control Form was lightened to make it easier to read information written in these fields.
- The Introduction and Informed Consent for Interview Respondents Age 12-17 [in the Showcard Booklet] was updated to clarify the FI instructions shown above the parental permission script at the top of the page. This text was

revised to read, “FIRST, READ THE PARENTAL PERMISSION SCRIPT BELOW AND OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE PARENT.”

- The RTI/SAMHSA Fact Sheet was updated with more current information on SAMHSA and RTI.
- The Q&A (Question and Answer) Brochure included an updated list of primary objectives for NSDUH to be consistent with other NSDUH materials. The text under the "How is the Study Administered?" heading was updated to state the interview takes “about an hour.”
- The NSDUH Respondent Web site content included updated links to information on NSDUH. The NSDUH in the News web page was updated with links to more recent articles and reports and a video containing footage from the most recent NSDUH press conference was included. The listing of primary objectives for NSDUH was updated to be consistent with other NSDUH materials
- *The NSDUH Report: Illicit Drug Use Among Older Adults* (Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, 2011) and two Data Spotlights: *OAS Data Spotlight: 12 Year Olds More Likely to Use Inhalants Than Cigarettes or Marijuana* (Office of Applied Studies, 2010) and *Data Spotlight: Young Alcohol Users Often Get Alcohol from Family or Home* (Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, 2011), were added to the interviewer materials for use with respondents.
- The Showcard Booklet underwent a few updates for 2012:
  - Additional dosages of ER and IR morphine were added to Pillcard A and the survey year was updated on bottom of all pillcards.
  - An Informed Consent Reference Guide was added to the Job Aids section for easy reference
  - The Steps to Maximizing Data Quality exhibit in the Job Aids section was updated to include a reminder that each protocol listed must be followed at all times. Also, the FI Manual references and text in the exhibit was updated to reflect current information.
  - The Interview Process exhibit in the Job Aids section was updated to include reminders on plugging in the headphones as part of the computer set-up and working on Data Quality Knowledge Notebook entries while the respondent is completing the ACASI portion of the interview.
- The Appointment Card was updated to simplify the text and re-formatted to present a more professional layout.
- The Sorry I Missed You Card was re-formatted to present a more professional layout.
- The Interview Payment Receipt was updated to reflect current information on SAMHSA’s Treatment Referral Helpline.

- The Newspaper Article handout was updated with two new articles featuring information on Methamphetamine and marijuana use.
- The NSDUH Highlights were updated to reflect the 2010 study results.
- The Doorperson Letter was updated to include Joel Kennet's name and signature. The dates in the FI ID badge were updated and the letterhead was edited to make it similar to the Lead Letter.
- The SAMHSA Authorization letter was updated with the current year and contract number.
- The Data Collection Agreement was updated to include stronger language regarding the consequences and penalties for falsification of any NSDUH data.
- The ePTE Working Copy was updated with the 2012 project number.

Copies of the 2012 interviewer materials can be found in Section 7, Written Communication, in the *2012 NSDUH Methodological Resource Book*.

## References

Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2011, September). Illicit Drug Use Among Older Adults. *The NSDUH Report*. [Available at [http://www.samhsa.gov/data/Short\\_Reports.aspx](http://www.samhsa.gov/data/Short_Reports.aspx)]

Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2011, February). Young Alcohol Users Often Get Alcohol from Family or Home. *Data Spotlight*. [Available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/Spotlights.aspx>]

Office of Applied Studies. (2010, March). 12 Year Olds More Likely to Use Inhalants Than Cigarettes or Marijuana. *OAS Data Spotlight*. [Available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/Spotlights.aspx>]