

Formative Research and Tool Development:

Assessment of a QDS Data Collection System in HIV Prevention Program Evaluation

Supporting Statement

B. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

This information collection request does not employ statistical methods. The following is a description of data collection procedures.

B.1. Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

The majority of the respondent universe will be young men of color between the ages of 16 and 29 who report having sex with male partners. Participants will be recruited through outreach, agency referral, convenience sampling, and snowball sampling.

B.2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

B.2.1. Recruitment

Participants will be recruited for this activity in collaboration with recruitment efforts already in place at each agency. These recruitment strategies will include seeking eligible, interested men through other programs and services provided at the agencies, and through informal and formal outreach activities at youth-specific venues. Participants may also be recruited through referrals from agency staff or from individuals already participating in the project. Agency staff may also contact collaborative partners in the community to gain access to groups of young men who have sex with men who are at risk for HIV infection.

B.2.2. Screening and Scheduling Procedures

Interested individuals will contact appropriate agency staff to schedule an appointment to be screened, give consent, and complete the survey. In some cases, the screening process, consent process, and survey completion may take place at the same day and time. Staff will schedule separate appointments for

screening/consent and survey completion if requested by participant. The screener form is provided in Attachment 3.

Interested participants will be given an overview of the project and then a staff person will complete a screener form to determine eligibility. If eligible, the staff person will reiterate the general purpose of the project, including a description of benefits and barriers to participation and protections for the participant's privacy and confidentiality. Interested participants will sign a consent form prior to participation.

B.2.3. Data Collection Methods

Potentially eligible individuals will be screened and consented in the agency office, field offices, at social and outreach events, and in other public places such as bars, health fairs, and college campuses. Eligible individuals will read and sign the consent form in the presence of a staff member, in a private location if requested. If requested, staff may also read the consent form to participants in a private location and answer questions.

QDS surveys will be completed by participants in the agency office, field offices, at social and outreach events, and in other public places such as bars, health fairs, and college campuses. Agency staff will assure participants the necessary degree of privacy during survey completion and will accommodate participants as necessary by providing a private space to complete the survey and ask questions. Participants will always have the choice to end their participation at any time.

The QDS survey will include questions that involve sensitive topics (e.g., HIV testing history, sexual behavior, drug use) which may put the participant at risk of potential harm resulting from breach of confidentiality if identifiers are collected. For this reason, no identifying information will be collected in the QDS survey.

B.3. Methods to Maximize Response Rates and Deal with Nonresponse

Proposed data collection does not employ statistical sampling methods. No additional methods will be employed to improve response rates.

B.4. Tests of Procedures or Methods to be Undertaken

This submission is a request for authorization to conduct tests of procedures and methodologies typical in methods and instrument development.

**B.5. Individuals Consulted on Statistical Aspects and
Individuals and/or Analyzing Data**

No other individuals were consulted on the statistical aspects or analysis of data from this sub-collection.