



National Institutes of Health
National Cancer Institute
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To: Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

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Subject: Non-Substantive Change Request for “Family Life, Activity, Sun, Health, and Eating (FLASHE) Survey” (OMB NO. 0925-0686, Expiry Date 12/31/2015)

This memo is to request a non-substantive change in the survey instrument to be used for the Family Life, Activity, Sun, Health, and Eating (FLASHE) Survey. The FLASHE study will be conducted with parent/adolescent dyads using a web based survey. The survey will be conducted with a panel sample and it is anticipated that 2,500 parent/adolescent dyads will respond. Motion sensing data will be collected in a subset of adolescents. A subsample of 900 adolescents is anticipated to wear a motion sensing device for seven consecutive days.

FLASHE will examine the science of cancer and obesity prevention by examining correlates of cancer preventive behaviors, mainly diet, activity, and sedentary behaviors (but also examining other behaviors such as sleep, sun-safety, and tobacco) in new ways not previously addressed comprehensively on other surveys in samples of parents and their adolescent children. The survey’s goal is to advance understanding of the dynamic relationship between the environment, psychosocial factors, and cancer preventive behaviors from a dyadic perspective. Data collected will ultimately be a public use dataset and resource to the research community.

This change request seeks to add two important items to the adolescent (“teen”) physical activity survey. The first item will ask,

What time does your school day typically start? _____

while the second asks,

What time does your school day typically end? _____

Please see page 7 of Attachment A for a screen shot of what the items look like embedded in the FLASHE survey.

The purpose of this information is to refine measurement of the study outcome variable: physical activity behavior. This will help enhance the primary study objectives of understanding environmental (e.g., home environment and parent factors) influence on adolescent behaviors. By having information on when the school day starts and ends, research analyses will be able to

differentiate and capture physical activity behaviors that are occurring outside of the home (in the school environment) versus the home environment.

Adding these two questions to the survey will allow FLASHE to more precisely answer the first and second research questions found in the Supporting Statement A of the approved submission:

- 1) Do psychosocial behavioral correlates (e.g. barriers to physical activity) mediate or are mediated by the home environment and ultimately what is their impact on physical activity behavior?
- 2) What is the relationship between neighborhood and community context and parenting styles supportive of physical activity behaviors?

While the existing questions will provide an overall sense of physical activity assessment, adding the questions about school start and end time will improve the accuracy of physical activity assessment in FLASHE. Adding the items that capture school start and end times will allow the data to be temporally matched allowing for the units of analysis to be defined as the individual segments of the week: during school, after-school, evening, and weekend. Combined school and out-of-time estimates can also be used to estimate total minutes of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA). By obtaining estimates of activity separately by segment of the day, researchers can obtain a clear understanding of the impact that each portion of the day has on total weekly activity. This approach allows researchers to explore the ability of existent self-report instruments to estimate activity in different settings. Importantly, it provides a deeper understanding of the relation between activity settings and teen's ability to recall activity.

It is anticipated that adding these two questions to the instrument will not measurably affect the time it takes to complete the survey and, therefore, will not affect the overall survey burden.

Attachments

A: Screenshot of revised web instrument including new questions (please see page 7)