

Participant Survey Scales

Cross-site Evaluation of the National Training Initiative on Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) for Community-Based Providers from Diverse Service Systems

HHSP23320095624WC

September 4, 2014

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Brief Literature Overview of the Use of Surveys to Assess Knowledge Uptake, Skills Acquisition, Attitudes and Beliefs

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Women's Health (OWH) National Training Initiative on Trauma Informed Care (TIC) for Community-Based Providers, referenced hereafter as the OWH Trauma Informed Care Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) initiative, employed an extensive curriculum of material on the: prevalence, conditions, and populations impacts of trauma; values and objectives of trauma informed care; and methods for implementing trauma informed care in health and human services programs. The training was provided in live sessions over a two-day period, with those in remote locations (Guam and Hawaii) participating by phone. In the two year implementation phase (2012 to 2014), participating organizations also received technical assistance on site or in telephonic sessions. At the end of the two-day training, participants were asked to complete a Participant Feedback Form. The TTA protocol did not include any pre- or post-assessments of participants' knowledge, skills, attitudes, and beliefs, it is critical to assess knowledge uptake, skills development, and attitude and belief changes as part of the OWH TIC TTA Evaluation.

OWH TIC TTA participants will be asked to complete an online survey, which will be administered after the training and technical assistance program is complete. The survey is designed to gather demographic and professional information from participants, and collect responses to questions on survey scales devised to measure attitudes and beliefs, knowledge uptake and skills acquired as a result of the TIC TTA initiative. The survey employs binary, Likert, and other multiple choice scales, consistent with the literature on survey methods, summarized below. The evaluation will not be able, given the lack of pre-testing, to calculate a degree of change in the amount of knowledge each training participant has; therefore, a post-test-only design is appropriate. This type of investigational design measures experimental groups, and can compare control groups, after completion of a training program (Health Services Research Methods, 2014). It is suitable to use a post-test-only design when looking at whether or not participants have reached an identified outcome, such as adopting a certain value or belief or acquiring new information.

Five-point Likert scales (e.g., 1 = all the time, 2 = some of the time, 3 = rarely, 4 = I did not adopt this value or belief, 5 = I did this prior to the training) are proven to provide sufficient discrimination among levels so that accurate conclusions can be drawn from participant responses (Goodwin, 2009). Although Likert scales tend to yield more descriptive results than binary (i.e., yes or no) scales, there are times when using dichotomous items are preferred (i.e., when it is not necessary for survey or questionnaire respondents to discriminate between a range of options) (DeVellis, 2003). An article in *The Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation* describes the "process of developing measures to assess knowledge exchange outcomes using the dissemination of document addressing best practice in type 2 diabetes care as a specific example" (Skinner, 2007, p. 49). One of the ultimate goals of the research was to identify the measurement tool that proved to be the most effective at assessing whether or not knowledge uptake occurred. Since the tool was not

intended to measure opinions, beliefs, or attitudes, but rather whether or not a subject acquired information, a binary scale was used.

Existing research indicates that knowledge uptake and skill acquisition, as well as changes in personal values and beliefs regarding a topic of interest, can reliably be assessed by examining participant responses on measurement scales administered after the training intervention. Through the use of appropriate and dependable experimental designs in addition to statistically sound measurements scales, reliable conclusions about the success (or failure) of an intervention can be drawn. Examples of studies employing these methods are described below.

The Public Health Agency of Canada recently conducted a study on the knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors of older adults about pneumococcal immunization. Participants were administered a survey which assessed these topics, and multi-variable logistic regression was used to determine whether or not the factors were associated with pneumococcal vaccine receipt. The survey measured the subject's knowledge of infection and immunization, individual beliefs regarding pneumococcal infection, and individual attitudes towards vaccines (Schneeberg et al., 2014). "Having been offered the pneumococcal vaccine by a health care provider, having been told by a healthcare provider about the pneumonia vaccine, and believing their healthcare provider thought receipt of the vaccine was a good idea were all positively associated with vaccine receipt" (Schneeberg et al., p.3). Both Likert and binary scales were used to measure knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes; Likert scales are very common in public health evaluation when the goal is to measure opinions, beliefs, and attitude, value, belief, and behavior items because they are more descriptive than other analyses.

A survey of general practitioners, psychiatrists, and internists examined different physicians' attitudes towards suicidal behavior and their perceived competence to care for suicidal patients. "Five-point Likert scales were used to measure self-perceived competence, level of commitment, empathy, and irritation felt towards patients with somatic and psychiatric diagnoses" (Grimholt, Haavet, Jacobsen, Sandvik, & Ekeberg, 2014, p. 1). Responses for the five-point Likert scale items on the Understanding Suicidal Patients Scale (UPS) were scored from 1 (I agree completely) to 5 (I disagree completely). The Cronbach's alpha calculated for the UPS-scale was 0.69, indicating acceptable reliability.

Over the past two decades, domestic violence training has been integrated into the curricula of most medical and postgraduate programs in the United States (Ramsay et al., 2012). In order to assess whether training and support programs increased (1) one's ability to identify a women experiencing domestic violence, as well as, (2) one's general knowledge of domestic violence, a cross-sectional survey was carried out by several researchers. Participants of the study included general practitioners (GPs) and practice nurses. The Physician Readiness to Manage Intimate Partner Violence Survey (PREMIS) is a valid, reliable, and well-recognized questionnaire in the United States (Ramsay et al., 2012). It includes sections on perceived preparedness and knowledge, actual knowledge, and opinions, among others. The PREMIS survey is a seven-point Likert scale, ranging from 1 = not prepared to 7 = well prepared for perceived preparation items; 1 = nothing to 7 = very much

for perceived knowledge items; 1 = strongly disagree to 7 = strongly agree for opinion items. Training programs have been evaluated by comparing results of the PREMIS survey before and after program implementation. These programs have proven to be very effective, generally "increasing the knowledge, attitudes, and skills of students and clinicians in relation to domestic violence" (Ramsay et al., 2012, p. 648).

Most studies geared towards evaluating knowledge uptake, skill acquisition, and personal changes in values and beliefs focus on comparing the results of a questionnaire taken immediately after an intervention, and the results of the same questionnaire taken after a set amount of time (follow-up). In a follow-up assessment of Integrated Management of Neonatal and Childhood Illness (IMNCI) training, primary health care workers were trained on IMNCI using either conventional 8-day training or interrupted 5-day training methods, tested on composite knowledge and skills, and then re-tested 3 years after the initial training. The two scores were compared to see how much information had been retained after 3 years. Regardless of the training program (8- or 5-day), knowledge and skills acquired declined significantly (Venkatachalam, Kumar, Gupta, & Aggarwal, 2011). While no pre-test was conducted to detect how much a participant learned from the actual training program, it is evident that some knowledge was acquired and subsequently forgotten over time. It was concluded that the training program was effective, but refresher trainings should be held in order to prevent this decline.

In a study on the long-term effectiveness of parent education using the "baby oral health" model on the improvement of oral health of young children, caregivers were exposed to an interactive audio-visual aid about oral health and then asked to complete a questionnaire relating to the information presented. In this particular study, there were four groups: a study group enrolled at baseline, a study group follow-up at 18 months, a comparison group, and a comparison group enrolled at follow-up. Not surprisingly, parents in the study group acquired more knowledge about oral health than those in the control group. More importantly, however, is the amount of knowledge retained over the 18-month period by participants who were exposed to the health information; no significant loss of knowledge was identified in the study group follow up over the 18-month study period for the majority of items on the questionnaire (Kulkarni, 2013). The measurements of the followup study are indicative of the effectiveness of the intervention. Although this study contained a control group, it was not necessary. The most important comparison was not between the study group and the control group, but rather it was between the study group questionnaire responses immediately after the presentation and the study group questionnaire responses after 18 months.

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2. Introduction and Participant Demographic Information

As a participant in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Women's Health (OWH) Trauma Informed Care (TIC) Training and Technical Assistance initiative provided in your HHS Region, you attended a two-day training event, followed, in some cases, by two technical assistance visits or calls. During the two-day training event, you were presented with a curriculum designed to share information about trauma, its prevalence and effects on individuals and communities. The curriculum also covered topics on the use of trauma informed care to support individuals with traumatic experiences in using health and human services in a manner that avoids creating additional traumatic effects on them. In this survey, which is part of the evaluation of the OWH TIC Training and Technical Assistance initiative, we ask you for some basic background information and then ask you questions about values and beliefs, as well as knowledge and skills, related to trauma and trauma informed care. Participation in this survey is voluntary. It is designed to be brief, and should take you approximately 25 to 30 minutes to complete. We appreciate your assistance in completing this survey and contributing to the evaluation. For any questions, we can be reached at: **ENTER NAME AND NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS.**

	Participant Demographic and Background Review
1.	When and where did you participate in the OWH TIC Training and Technical Assistance?
	Region 1: Worcester, MA on July 30-31, 2012
	Region 2: Albany, NY on April 22-23, 2013
	Region 2: Newark, NJ on April 15-16, 2014
	Region 3: Philadelphia, PA on June 4-5, 2013
	Region 3: Henrico, VA on April 30-May 1, 2014
	Region 4: Columbia, SC on May 7-8, 2013
	Region 5: Brooklyn Center, MN on May 21-22, 2013
	Region 6: West Monroe, LA on January 31-February 1, 2013
	Region 6: Fort Worth, TX on June 10-11, 2014
	Region 7: Kansas City, MO on February 20, 2013
	Region 8: Denver, CO on June 19-20, 2013
	Region 9: San Francisco, CA on May 1-2, 2013
	Region 10: Seattle, WA on July 30-31, 2012
	• Region 10: Nampa, ID on May 21-22, 2014
2.	How old are you?
	Under 30 years
	• 31 – 40 years
	• 41 – 50 years
	• Over 50 years
3.	What is your gender?
	• Female
	• Male
	Other (Please specify)
4.	What is the highest level of education you have completed?
	High School Diploma or GED Certification

	Participant Demographic and Background Review
	University or College Diploma
	Associates Degree
	Bachelor's Degree
	Specialized or Professional Graduate or Post-graduate Degree (e.g. MBBS, MSc, MPH, PhD)
	Other (Please specify)
5.	What type of organization do you currently work in?
	Peer or Consumer Advocacy or Support Organization
	Violence Against Women Program
	Reproductive Health Program
	Maternal and Child Health Program
	Minority Health Program
	Immigrant or Refugee Health Program
	Other Community Health Center or Clinic
	Community Behavioral Health Center or Clinic
	Community or General Hospital
	Specialty or Psychiatric Hospital
	Court or Victim/Witness Aid Program
	Criminal Justice Program
	Other (Please specify)
6.	Which of these job categories best describes your current role or job?
	Consumer Affairs or Advocacy
	Support Services
	Clinical Services
	Case Management
	Clinical Management
	Program Management
	Administration
	Other (Please specify)
7.	How long have you been working in this current position?
	• < 1 year
	• 1 – 4 years
	• 5 – 9 years
	• 10 – 14 years
	• \geq 15 years
8.	How long have you been working in your organization?
	• <1 year
	• 1 – 4 years
	• 5 – 9 years
	• 10 – 14 years
	• \geq 15 years
9	How long have you been working in your field?
	• < 1 year
	• 1 – 4 years
	• 1 – 4 years

Participant Demographic and Background Review

- 5 9 years
- 10 14 years
- ≥ 15 years

10. Prior to participating in the OWH TIC Training and Technical Assistance, had you attended a lecture, seminar, or workshop on trauma informed care?

- Yes (Please specify) ____
- No

11. After participating in the OWH TIC Training and Technical Assistance, have you attended a lecture, seminar, or workshop on trauma informed care?

- Yes (Please specify) ____
- No

3. Assessment of Values and Beliefs Scale

Values and Beliefs Assessment							
	As a res do you of	As a result of the TIC Training, to what extent do you agree with and use in your work any of the following values or beliefs?					
	Strongly agree and it always guides my work	Agree and it sometimes guides my work	Disagree and it rarely guides my work	Strongly disagree and it never guides my work	l knew and understood this concept prior to the training		
	1	2	3	4			
01. Exposure to trauma is common.					YesNo		
02. Trauma exposure has no boundarie and spans generations.	S				YesNo		
03. Trauma is a defining and organizing experience.					YesNo		
04. Trauma lives in the body.					YesNo		
05. Recovery from trauma is possible for all.					YesNo		
06. Trauma-informed practice creates conditions for safety, healing, and recovery.					YesNo		
07. Peers and program participants are the experts in their own recovery.					YesNo		
08. Healing happens in safe, stable, nurturing relationships.					YesNo		
09. Healing from trauma is trans- formative (i.e., changes all aspects of a person's life).	of				YesNo		
10. Paths to healing are personal and diverse.					YesNo		
11. Healing builds strength in the "broken places."					YesNo		
12. Informed choice is central to healing from trauma.					YesNo		
13. Physical and emotional safety are essential for healing.					• Yes		

PARTICIPANT SURVEY SCALES

Values and Beliefs Assessment							
	As a result of the TIC Training, to what extent do you agree with and use in your work any of the following values or beliefs?				Let us know if you held any of these values or beliefs before the TIC Training		
	Strongly agree and it always guides my work	Agree and it sometimes guides my work	Disagree and it rarely guides my work	Strongly disagree and it never guides my work	l knew and understood this concept prior to the training		
	1	2	3	4			
					 No 		

4. Assessment of Knowledge Scale

Part One: Providing Your Feedback on the Content of the Training and TA

Please answer the questions in the text boxes below in your own words.

01. What were the most important things you learned from the OWH Trauma Informed Care Training?

02. What were the most important things you learned from the OWH Trauma Informed Care Technical Assistance?

03. What impact did the OWH Trauma Informed Care Training and TA have on your agencies' practice, service recipients and community?

04. Was there other information you would like to have learned about in the TIC TTA?

05. Do you have any changes you would recommend be made for future TIC Training and TA sessions?

Part Two: Rating Familiarity with Knowledge Domains										
To what extent was the information about trauma and trauma informed care that was provided during the TIC Training new to you?										
	Most or All of this information was new to me	Much of this information was new to me	I learned some new information	l knew much of this information already	l knew all of this information it added nothing	l do not know this information				
	1	2	3	4	5	6				
01. Violence against women, including prevalence, age, economic and cultural status of those affected										
02. Traumatic events and their effects on emotional and mental wellbeing										
03. Traumatic events and their effects on physical health										
04. Traumatic events and their effects on the brain and perception										
05. Psychological techniques to reduce the effects of trauma										
06. Physiological techniques to reduce the effects of trauma										
07. The components of trauma informed care and how to implement it										
08. Engagement, perspective and roles of peers in personal recovery and trauma informed care										

PARTICIPANT SURVEY SCALES

	Part Three: True/False Questions						
	Can you tell us if the following statements about trauma, its effects on people, and trauma informed care are true or false, or if you are unsure?						
01.	 Trauma often involves being emotionally or physically hurt by a trusted person like a friend or family member or someone who works at an institution, such as a school, church or hospital. True False Not Sure 						
02.	Young and poor women are the most likely of all groups to experience or be victims of violence. True False Not Sure 						
03.	t takes time for people to recover a sense of safety, security and happiness after trauma. True False Not Sure						
04.	 Trauma-specific services are the same as trauma informed care. True False Not Sure 						
05 r	 Trauma informed care is an organizational structure and treatment framework that involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all types of trauma. True False Not Sure 						
06.	 Trauma informed care emphasizes physical, psychological and emotional safety for both recipients of services and providers True False Not Sure 						
07.	 Trauma informed care helps survivors rebuild a sense of control and empowerment. True False Not Sure 						
08.	 The impact of trauma is experienced across the lifespan and across generations. True False Not Sure 						
09. 0	Cultural sensitivity honors all healing traditions. True False 						

Part Three: True/False Questions

Can you tell us if the following statements about trauma, its effects on people, and trauma informed care are true or false, or if you are unsure?

Not Sure

10. Re-traumatization, or being traumatized again, is always intentional.

- True
- False
- Not Sure

	Part Four: Multiple Choice Questions						
	Can you select the correct answer to each of the following questions about trauma, its effect on people, and trauma informed care?						
01.	What did you learn about adverse childhood experiences (ACE)?						
	They happen to people in the first five years of life						
	They happen only to a small number of people						
	They affect people in poorly run schools						
	They are commonplace and affect many people						
02.	How do we know whether situations or people are safe, dangerous, or life threatening?						
	Because danger signs are posted						
	Because our brains are wired to signal that information						
	Because other people warn us						
03.	What happens when the nervous system senses danger?						
	We think about the best way to cope						
	We call for help						
	We feel fear that overrides logical thinking						
04.	Traumatic events can cause serious and lasting changes in people, including changes to which of the following things?						
	Emotions						
	• Thinking						
	Memory						
	All of the above						
05.	Which of these is a result of adverse childhood experiences?						
	Poor access to healthcare						
	Lack of jobs for teenagers						
	Communities with school problems						
	Health problems in adulthood						

Part Four: Multiple Choice Questions
Can you select the correct answer to each of the following questions about trauma, its effect on people, and trauma informed care?
06. Re-traumatization causes a person to experience overwhelming emotions and reactions associated with a previous traumatic event. Which is true?
 For someone to be re-traumatized, the person must experience the same situation and interactions in the same environment as the original traumatic episode.
 Anything that reminds the person of their original trauma, including situations, attitudes, interactions and environments could re-traumatize someone
Situations, attitudes, interactions and/or environments cannot cause re-traumatization
 07. In trauma informed systems, what do people do with their knowledge, skills, and values? Review them Reflect on them
 Revise them when needed All of these
None of these
 08. Which of these core competencies are required to provide trauma informed care? Knowledge Skills Beliefs All of these
 09. Which of these tasks is necessary to provide trauma informed care? Provide for physical safety Address emotional safety Help survivors of trauma/peers rebuild a sense of control and empowerment All of these
 10. Which of these are essential to trauma-informed practice? Programs that teach life skills The wisdom, experience, and expertise of people with lived experience Information about community resources Benefits advocacy
 11. Where can re-traumatization occur? In institutional settings In community-based settings In either type of setting
12. When we recall a traumatic life event, we might not be aware of what we are experiencing. How do researchers describe that experience?
 Implicit memory that is experienced in the body as something physical or somatic Affective memory that is experienced as something that is emotional or a feeling Both implicit memory and affective memory Neither implicit memory or affective memory
 13. What is "person-first language" and why is it important to use in trauma informed programs? Recognizing that people always come first Talking about the person before you talk about their condition

Part Four: Multiple Choice Questions

Can you select the correct answer to each of the following questions about trauma, its effect on people, and trauma informed care?

• Saying, for example, that someone is "a person with PTSD", rather than saying that someone is a "PTSD case"

14. Trauma informed systems require which of these things?

- Intentional and authentic peer and staff collaborations
- Sharing of wisdom and expertise of peers and staff alike
- Honoring and understanding both peer and staff perspectives
- All of the above

5. Assessment of Skills Scale

	Assessment of Skills Scale							
		As a result of the TIC Training, to what extent did you implement any of the following skills in your practice?						
		All the time	Some of the time	Rarely	l did not implement this skill	l did this prior to the training	Does not apply to my job or role	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
01.	Explain trauma and trauma reactions.							
02.	Recognize "symptoms" as adaptive coping mechanisms of trauma.							
03.	Explain trauma informed systems of care.							
04.	Ask "What happened?" instead of "What's wrong?"							
05.	Identify when women are frozen or revved up for fight or flight.							
06.	Help women to shift from threat responses to more calm responses.							
07.	Understand the components of effective communication.							
08.	Explain what safety is.							
09.	Identify spaces, conditions, and practices that may cause women to react as if they are re-experiencing the original trauma (i.e., be re-traumatized).							
10.	Use "universal precautions" to avoid re-traumatization.							
11.	Use person-first, non- clinical language.							
12.	Support peer or participant skill development by sharing power.							
13.	Support peer or participant involvement by providing opportunities for program participants to facilitate, organize, and coordinate activities.							

PARTICIPANT SURVEY SCALES

	Assessment of Skills Scale								
		As a result of the TIC Training, to what extent did you implement any of the following skills in your practice?							
		All the time	Some of the time	Rarely	l did not implement this skill	l did this prior to the training	Does not apply to my job or role		
14.	Establish and maintain transparency in actions and interactions.	1	2	3	4	5	0		
15.	Share information in an ongoing, consistent manner.								
16.	Establish trusting relationships with colleagues.								
17.	Establish trusting relationships that are respectful, collaborative, and inclusive with peers and participants.								
18.	Make appropriate referrals with timely follow-up.								
19.	Engage peers and participants with empathy, warmth, and sincerity.								
20.	Practice self-care in an intentional, consistent manner.								
21.	Maintain confidentiality.								
22.	Ask for help when needed from supervisor, peers and participants, and colleagues.								
23.	Offer peers and participants choices, and honor their decisions.								
24.	Coach peers and participants to know their own strengths and talents.								
25.	Demonstrate culturally appropriate respect.								
26.	Tailor approach to the unique and personal goals and needs of peers and participants.								