

SUPPORTING STATEMENT – PART B

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

1. Description of the Activity

Per Supporting Statement A, our OMB package is requesting approval to conduct interviews and focus groups with a total of 400 participants, where participants are DoD contractors and civilian rehabilitation healthcare providers. We plan to conduct 200 individual interviews, with the other 200 participants being involved in one of 20 focus groups (estimated average of 10 participants each).

2. Procedures for the Collection of Information

Our goal is to talk with DoD contractors and civilian rehabilitation healthcare providers to understand their perspective about amputation rehabilitation. For DoD contractors, we plan to interview/ include in focus groups those willing to be included in our study. To find DoD contractors, we will target participants from Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (Military Advanced Training Center), Brooke Army Medical Center (Center for the Intrepid), and/or Naval Medical Center San Diego (Comprehensive Combat and Complex Casualty Center) – though we might need to conduct individual interviews and focus groups at additional DoD sites both CONUS (for example, Fort Bragg, Madigan Army Medical Center) and OCONUS (for example, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center) if there are fewer providers than anticipated at our three primary DoD sites. For civilian rehabilitation providers, we will target locations identified as being highly regarded with respect to amputation rehabilitation. We are not conducting statistical analyses of these data as we will be collecting qualitative information from participants through the interviews we have designed.

3. Maximization of Response Rates, Non-response, and Reliability

We plan to include as participants all DoD contractors and civilian rehabilitation providers (up to 400) interested in participating in our study, including those who previously worked in a relevant rehabilitation (of this particular patient population) position but who have moved to a new position or have retired. We have an invitation letter that describes the study and asks participants to contact us should they be interested in participating. We have used letters like this in previous studies and it has helped maximize response rates. We also think that response rates will be maximized because the topic of our study is personally meaningful to potential participants. We will also advertise the study with posters, fliers, and announcements during facility or department meetings. We will attempt to contact the universe of participants and we have a minimum sample size for conducting competency modeling, so we will make every effort to ensure our data are representative of the population.

4. Tests of Procedures

RAND Corporation's multidisciplinary team of researchers iteratively and collaboratively created the interview protocol we will use. Our team has extensive experience creating interview protocols, conducting interviews and focus groups, and extracting thematic data from interviews.

5. Statistical Consultation and Information Analysis

a.

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b.

All data will be collected by the research team from the RAND Corporation. Our team currently includes:

- Dr. Jason Etchegaray, I/O psychologist (co-PI)
- Dr. Heather Krull, economist (co-PI)
- Dr. Sangeeta Ahluwalia, health services and policy analyst
- Dr. Ed Chan, operations researcher
- Dr. Ritika Chaturvedi, bioengineer
- Dr. Stephanie Holliday, clinical psychologist
- Dr. Melinda Moore, MD
- Dr. Tepring Piquado, neuroscientist
- Dr. Rajeev Ramchand, psychiatric epidemiologist
- Dr. Bernie Rostker, economist
- Angela Clague, sociologist