



**U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services**  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

*Print Date: 1/13/20*

**Title:** Usability Assessment of CRC SIMPLER - Community Reception Center Simulation Program for Leveraging and Evaluating Resources

**Project Id:** 0900f3eb81a63fad

**Project Contact:** Finklea\_Lauren (Ina8)

**Organization:** NCEH/ATSDR/DEHSP/EMRCB/RT

**Status:** **Project In Progress**

**Intended Use:** **Project Determination**

**Estimated Start Date:** 12/11/2019

**Estimated Completion Date:** 01/31/2020

**CDC/ATSDR HRPO/IRB Protocol #:**

**OMB Control#:** 0923-0047

## **Determinations**

<b>Determination</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Entered By &amp; Role</b>
HSC: <b>Does NOT Require HRPO Review</b>	Not Research	12/19/19	Lawler_Tameka (gjq3) CIO HSC
PRA: <b>PRA Applies</b>		12/19/19	Lawler_Tameka (gjq3) CIO OMB / PRA

## Description & Funding

### Description

**Priority:** Standard

**Date Needed:** 12/09/2019

**Determination Start Date:** 11/26/19

**Description:**

We would like to engage radiation planning workers in assessing the usability of the CRC SimPLER modeling/simulation program which is currently in development. CRC SimPLER is a throughput estimation calculator that will allow radiation emergency planners to evaluate their current population monitoring resources and see what additional resources might be needed to achieve their throughput goals during a radiation emergency. We are looking to engage partners at the federal and state level that either could use the tool themselves or work with those who will use it. Feedback from partners will allow us to validate the current tool interface as well as determine if other additions are needed prior to finalizing the tool and preparing it for clearance. Results of the assessment will not be published and will only be used to improve or enhance the tool.

**Goals/Purpose**

CRC SimPLER is a tool that has been developed with the intention to provide radiation emergency planners with a simple and easy to use calculator to enter their current resources and evaluate their capacity and identify areas of improvement or in need of additional resources. Since the tool is meant to be easy to use - it is important to perform usability assessment prior to deployment so that we can make sure it is truly intuitive to use and the calculator outputs make sense as well as provide the user with information that they can use. The purpose of this project is to assess the ease of use of the interface. This is important because other currently available tools that attempt to do similar tasks have been found by many to be difficult to use. The goal of this project is to make sure that CRC SimPLER is truly as intuitive to use as possible and helpful to federal, state and local radiation planners.

**Objective:**

CRC SimPLER is a tool developed to provide radiation planners with a mechanism that would allow them to evaluate their current resources for population monitoring (contamination screening, decontamination, registering individuals) as well as determine if and where additional resources might be needed to enhance their ability to conduct population monitoring during a radiation emergency. This project, the usability assessment project, will help make sure the tool will be useful and provide key information to planners so that they can better plan for population monitoring in their locality.

**Activities or Tasks:**

New Collection of Information, Data, or Biospecimens

**Target Populations to be Included/Represented:**

Other

**Tags/Keywords:**

Software Validation, User-Computer Interface

**CDC's Role:**

Activity originated and designed by CDC staff, or conducted at the specific request of CDC, or CDC staff will approve study design and data collection as a condition of any funding provided

**Method Categories:**

Individual Interviews (Qualitative)

**Methods:**

To determine if the interface is intuitive, we will conduct up to 25 individual interviews through Skype where the user will be allowed to interact with the tool. We developed a script that will guide the user through the use of the tool and ask questions throughout the process to assess the tool interface. The interviewer will also observe the user during this process to determine if they seem to be struggling to find things on the interface or are unsure of the meaning of certain terms used in the tool. A sample script for the usability assessment is attached (in supporting information). There will be no collection of PII such as name or email address in the responses from the interview. Responses will be aggregated and summarized at the end of the interview process to evaluate the usability of the tool.

**Collection of Info, Data or Biospecimen:**

Information will be collected by the interviewer following the designed script. Most questions are in the format of Yes/No or Difficulty with task/achieved task. There will be no collection of PII such as name or email address in the responses from the interview. Responses will be aggregated and summarized at the end of the interview process to evaluate the usability of the tool. (Sample spreadsheet in supporting documents)

**Expected Use of Findings/Results:**

Findings from the interviews will provide insight on how intuitive the interface of the tool is and what might need to be added/clarified /removed so that it will provide a clean and "easy to use" interface for radiation planners. This will have a great impact as the major complaint from users of similar tools is that existing tools are difficult to use, and the outputs aren't useful. This process will ensure that the tool will address those needs.

**Will PII be captured?**

No

**Funding**

Funding yet to be added .....

**Review Attributes**

Quality Assurance / Improvement

## Institutions & Staff

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### Institutions

Institutions yet to be added .....

### Staff

Staff Member	SIQT Exp. Date	CITI Biomedical Exp. Date	CITI Social & Behavioral Exp. Date	CITI Good Clinical Practice Exp. Date	Staff Role	Email	Phone	Organization
Adela Salame-Alfie	12/04/2021				Program Official	yta1@cdc.gov	770-488-3677	RADIATION

## Data

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### DMP

**Proposed Data Collection Start Date:** 12/11/19

**Proposed Data Collection End Date:** 1/24/20

**Proposed Public Access Level:** Non-Public

*Non-Public Details:*

**Reason For Not Releasing Data:**

Other - Data is only going to be used internally to enhance the usability of the tool before it is cleared and available for public use. (Public Use as in federal, state and local radiation planners)

**Public Access Justification:**

Data does not need to be made public as it would not be beneficial to the public or cost effective to the CDC. The qualitative data that will be collected in this effort is solely being used to make sure that the CRC SimPLER tool is usable, and the interface is achieving its goals of being intuitive and easy to use. The data is not intended to be published. Once all interviews are complete, the answers to each question will be aggregated to evaluate the tool.

**How Access Will Be Provided for Data:**

Personal Identifiers will not be kept in the data collection mechanism (excel file). Names and email of the participants will not be kept and will not be tied to the data. Data collected from each interview will be aggregated and summarized for a qualitative report that will

be used for the sole purpose of software tool development. Data from the interviews will not be shared outside CDC.

The final data will be aggregate interview answers kept in an excel spreadsheet. The long-term preservation of the data will be kept by the software developer (Lauren Finklea) and her section, Radiation Studies. Should the data need to be made available for CDC colleagues, it could be shared through email or a sharedrive link. The data is not intended for the public so at no time will it be available to the public. The data can be shared internally within CDC at the end of the usability testing.

**Plans for Archival and Long Term Preservation:**

**Spatiality**

Spatiality (Geographic Locations) yet to be added .....

**Dataset**

Dataset Title	Data Publisher /Owner	Public Access Level	Public Access Justification	External Access URL	Download URL	Type of Data Released	Dataset Start Date	Dataset End Date
Dataset yet to be added...								



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