

# Instrumentation Protocol Changes

The 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) instrumentation protocols underwent several modifications from the protocols employed for the 2018 NSDUH. A summary of the changes for the 2019 NSDUH can be divided into three topics: (1) the computer-assisted interviewing (CAI) tablet screening instrument, (2) the CAI Questionnaire, and (3) the interviewer materials.

## 1. Screening Instrument

Using the 2018 Screening Application as a base, questions, response options, interviewer instructions, and menu displays were modified for the 2019 Screening Application. Listed below are the Screening Application changes for 2019:

- On the GQU Screening instrument, the order of "AGES AND NAMES" was switched on Verify Roster so that it reads "READ LIST OF OCCUPANTS NAMES AND AGES" (page 2-9).
- On the "Add Appointment" menu item, Select Case Screen Options, the phrase "to calendar" was added so that it now reads "Add Appointment to Calendar." (pages 3-1, 3-3, 3-9, 4-2).

## 2. CAI Questionnaire

Using the 2018 CAI Questionnaire as a base, questions and routing were modified for the 2019 CAI Questionnaire. Listed below are the CAI Questionnaire changes for 2019:

### *Core Demographics*

- The response options for QD10c were changed to all capital letters to correctly reflect questionnaire conventions that these items should not be read out loud.

### *Inhalants*

- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by bolding "ever" in INREF.

### *Pain Relievers Main Module*

- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by adding further routing to PR30INITx.
- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by deleting the unnecessary phrase "or any other prescription pain reliever" from PRFILL2.

### *Tranquilizers Main Module*

- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by adding further routing to TR30INITx.
- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by deleting the unnecessary phrase "or any other prescription tranquilizer" from TRFILL2.

### ***Stimulants Main Module***

- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by adding further routing to ST30INITx.
- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by deleting the unnecessary phrase "or any other prescription stimulant" from STFILL2.

### ***Sedatives Main Module***

- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by adding further routing to SV30INITx.
- Specifications were edited to match the CAI program by deleting the unnecessary phrase "or any other prescription sedative" from SVFILL2.

### ***Consumption of Alcohol***

- Questions were added to measure medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for alcohol and heroin or prescription pain reliever (opioid) use. These questions measure occurrence of MAT in the past 12 months, medication used, use of overdose prevention medication, and frequency of use.
- Questions were added to measure lifetime use and recency of kratom.

### ***Education***

- Routing was added to QD21 to skip respondents who indicated school was not in session in the past 30 days in QD20DKRE out of QD21.
- Based on the change to QD21, respondents who report that school was not in session in the past 30 days in QD20DKRE will no longer receive QD21. Because QD21DKRE is only asked if QD21 = DK, response option 6 for "School was not in session during the past 30 days" was removed from QD21DKRE.

### ***Health Insurance***

- Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) names were updated to reflect annual state program name changes.

### ***Income***

- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) names were updated to reflect annual state program name changes.

### ***Verification***

- The wording of INCENT01 was changed in the specifications only to match the instrument program. The word "the" was added before "\$30."

Copies of the 2019 Screener Specifications and CAI Questionnaire can be found in Section 4, Screening Specifications, and Section 5, Questionnaires, in the *2019 NSDUH Methodological Resource Book*.

### 3. Interviewer Materials

The 2019 interviewer materials and protocols for using those materials were based on the 2018 interviewer materials and protocols. In addition to minor wording revisions and year updates (2018 to 2019), the following changes were made to the 2019 interviewer materials:

- The Quality Control Form was revised to include the updated survey year. The Quality Control Forms were printed on gray-colored paper.
- The Study Description was revised to include the updated survey year.
- The RTI/SAMHSA Fact Sheet was updated to include current information about SAMHSA and RTI.
- The Summary of Questionnaire was revised to include the updated survey year.
- The NSDUH Respondent Website content was revised to include minor text updates and the updated survey year. The NSDUH in the News web page was updated with links to recent articles and reports, and a link to the video presentation of the most recent NSDUH press conference was added.
- Two infographics, *Opioid Crisis* and *Mental Illness and Substance Use Among Young Adults*, were added to the interviewer materials for use with respondents. Both infographics were available in English and Spanish.
- The Showcard Booklet underwent several updates for 2019 in addition to updating the survey year:
  - In the Job Aids section, the Procedures After an Automobile Accident was updated to reflect current procedures and contact information.
- The Newspaper Article handout included new articles featuring information on marijuana use among middle-age adults and women who smoked during pregnancy.
- The NSDUH Highlights were updated to reflect the 2017 study results.
- The SAMHSA Authorization letter was revised to include the updated survey year.
- The Interview Incentive Receipt was revised to include the updated survey year.

Copies of the 2019 interviewer materials can be found in Section 7, Written Communication, in the *2019 NSDUH Methodological Resource Book*.