

Fitting a Square Survey in a Round Hole

(How to plan when so much is new and different)

CHMS

- The Canadian Health Measures Survey
- Two parts:
 - 1) 1 hour CAPI interview in the home
 - 2) 2 hour visit to mobile clinic for direct measures

Home Interview

- Nutrition
- Smoking habits
- Alcohol use
- Medical history
- Current health status & medication use
- Sexual behaviour
- Lifestyle & physical activity
- Environment & household characteristics
- Demographic & socio-economic information

Clinic Visit

- Height & weight; waist & hip measurements
- Skin fold test (body composition)
- Step test (cardiovascular fitness)
- Sit & Reach test (flexibility)
- Grip strength test (muscular strength)
- Partial curl-ups (muscular endurance)
- Spirometry test (lung function)
- Oral examination (teeth & gums)
- Blood pressure
- Blood and urine samples
- Physical Activity Monitor (collect data for 1 week)

What for?

Create national baseline data on:

- Obesity
- Hypertension
- Cardiovascular disease
- Exposure to infectious diseases & environmental contaminants

What for?

Provide information on:

- Undiagnosed diseases
- Relationships between disease risk factors and health status
- Clues about illness
- Emerging public health issues
- Data gaps

Mobile Examination Clinic (MEC)

The Mobile Clinic



Road Teams

- 1) Field CAPI Interviewers (10-12) + 1 Interviewer Manager
- 2) Clinic staff (18-20) + 1 Clinic Manager

Two sets of trailers.

One set in use while the other drives to and sets up at the next site.

Differences/Challenges

- Hiring
- Training
- Care and retention

Hiring

- Options
 - dedicated team
 - regional teams
 - combination
 - brand new or experienced

- Unionized interviewers
- “Notice of Interest” (+ job description)
- Screening
- Testing
- Language capabilities
- Able to drive, travel extensively (health concerns)
- Job contracts that don’t violate union agreements or Treasury Board guidelines

Training

Normal interviewer training/review

- Statistic Canada policies
- doorstep diplomacy
- survey concepts, definitions
- data capture application

CHMS added training:

- how to sell this very different survey
- how to use the selling tools
 - 3 minute video clip
 - RIK (Respondent Information Kit)
- first-hand experience with clinic tests
- 3 weeks as opposed to an average of 3 days
- participation in Dry Run & Dress Rehearsal
- Interviewer Manager on site
- how to complete Travel Requests/Forms
- how to complete Living Expense Claims/Travel expense claims
- training of short-term interviewers for just 1 or 2 sites

Interviewer Care & Retention

What's the incentive to get them?

1. Money
2. Travel
3. Nature of the survey

What's going to keep them?
(what's going to make their work/life easier?)

- GPS & maps
- Car safety kits
- Preparing the public through Media Relations
- Good accommodations
- Home visits/family members' visits
- Help with setting up and dismantling sites
- Constant & regular communication
- Internet access in IM's office
- Cell phones
- AMEX cards
- Technical Problems/Help Desk (HO)
- IM support
- Creating a "Team Spirit"

CHMS – Day 1, Site 1



CHMS 'Family'

