



AUDIO COMPUTER- ASSISTED SELF INTERVIEWING

The Population Council has developed innovative and flexible software that allows for more privacy and increased standardization in interviews.

Using ACASI, participants hear pre-recorded questions via a headset and respond using a touch screen or key pad. The technology has proved easy for users to master, allowing interviews to be completely self-administered. ACASI offers the following advantages:

STANDARDIZATION: Questions are asked in the same way across interviews.

CONFIDENTIALITY: Responses are given silently and privately.

LINGUISTIC FLEXIBILITY: ACASI can be used with literate or illiterate populations and has already been configured for use in 13 languages and dialects.

SECURITY: Data from interviews are automatically stored in a database.

Features and flexibility

ACASI can accommodate many different kinds of questions and answers:

- Yes/No questions
- Yes/No/Maybe questions
- Questions where participants:
 - choose among color-coded options or numbered options
 - click on a graphic to answer
 - click on a graphic multiple times to show how many times something happened
 - click on a graphic calendar to describe behavior over a seven-day period

ACASI is supported by PDA and tablet/laptop computers for more flexibility in research design.

Services offered by the Population Council

ACASI was piloted nearly ten years ago, giving Population Council staff extensive experience adapting the software to fit your study. We offer:

SOFTWARE CUSTOMIZATION to best support scientists' requirements.

TRAINING for all new ACASI users.

SUPPORT DURING PILOTING to ensure efficient clinical use.

TROUBLESHOOTING by expert technicians.

Increased confidentiality may increase candor:

Studies comparing ACASI with face-to-face interviews indicate participants are more likely to report high-risk behaviors when using ACASI.

ACASI has enhanced research in a variety of disciplines and in many countries.

ACASI is currently being used in:

- A safety and effectiveness study of two microbicide candidates (Malawi; Microbicides Trial Network)
- A safety and acceptability study of a non-medicated vaginal ring (India and US; Microbicides Trial Network)
- A safety and efficacy study of oral versus topical PREP (Multi-national; Microbicides Trial Network)
- Research to assess and improve the measurement of sexual behavior, including household and clinical research (Uganda, Malawi, South Africa; Population Council)
- A school-based longitudinal study of adolescents (Malawi; Population Council)
- A Phase III Clinical trial of a one-year vaginal ring (Multi-national; Population Council)

For information about ACASI software or services, contact:

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or visit:

www.popcouncil.org/projects/IT_ACASI.html

ACASI

SOFTWARE FOR
AUDIO COMPUTER-ASSISTED
SELF-INTERVIEWING

About the Population Council

The Population Council conducts research worldwide to improve policies, programs, and products in three areas: HIV and AIDS; poverty, gender, and youth; and reproductive health.

Population Council locations

United States

New York Headquarters
Center for Biomedical Research, NY
Washington, D.C.

Latin America and the Caribbean

La Paz, Bolivia
Guatemala City, Guatemala
Mexico City, Mexico

South and East Asia

Dhaka, Bangladesh
New Delhi, India
Hanoi, Vietnam

West Asia and North Africa

Cairo, Egypt
Islamabad, Pakistan
Khartoum, Sudan

Sub-Saharan Africa

Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Accra, Ghana
Nairobi, Kenya
Bamako, Mali
Abuja, Nigeria
Dakar, Senegal
Johannesburg, South Africa
Lusaka, Zambia



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