Cognitive Data Collection during COVID19 Precautions

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Overview

1. Virtual / Remote Assessment: **Considerations**

2. Virtual / Remote Assessment: **Options** & Challenges

3. Virtual / Remote Assessment during COVID19: Options & **Challenges**

4. GNRP **Solutions**

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

- Funding for my research comes from the National Institute of Mental Health & the National Institute on Aging.

1. Virtual / Remote Assessment: **Considerations**

Where are you in the course of study data collection?

Can you afford to pause data collection and wait?

Can you afford to forgo assessments (missing data)?

How long is your test battery?

Are your participants and/or assessors at high risk for COVID19 complications?

Can you afford (cost & time) to do a validation study?

When pandemic ends: Will you switch back to full in-person testing or continue with remote assessment?

2. Virtual / Remote Assessment: **Options** & Challenges

Types of remote assessments:

- Telephone—hearing issues, lack of assessor control (allows cheating), limited to covering cog processes.

- Smartphone—vision issues

- Tablet-larger area to view stimuli-less common

- Computer-less common

2. Virtual / Remote Assessment: Options & **Challenges**

- Protect the fidelity of assessments (relative to in-person, standardized administration per **norms**).

- Participant unfamiliar/ or uncomfortable with the technology.

- Threat: lack of control over testing environment (interruptions, distractions, etc.).

- Threat: Poor internet connection.

3.Virtual / Remote Assessment during COVID19: **Options** & Challenges

Lockdown Phase Options:

- Pause assessments or convert to remote assessments

Open Phase Options:

- Stay paused, convert to or continue with fully remote visits, or develop in-lab, hybrid in-person & remote assessment

4. GNRP <u>Solutions</u>

<u>Lockdown Phase Options</u>:

- Pause assessments or convert to remote visits

Open Phase Options:

- Stay paused, convert to fully remote visits, or develop in-lab, hybrid in-person & remote assessment

Post COVID19 Phase Options:

- All of the above???

GNRP Solutions

Lockdown Phase Solutions:

- Conducted equipment survey.

- Decided to start with participants who had access to equipment and internet connection and develop **fully remote assessment**.

- Deferred those without access until we converted to fully remote assessment and/or policies opened up.

GNRP Solutions

Fully Remote Assessments:

- Spend time pre-session, setting up environment (to maximize control over testing environment).

- Check internet connection.

- Pay attention to phone number used for call.

- Deliver key materials to participant ahead of time in clearly marked envelopes/folders.

- Use stable stimulus presentation.

- Use **webcam** to allow assessor to view performance, including/especially errors.

- Conduct satisfaction survey

GNRP Solutions

<u>Open Phase Options</u>:

For participants willing & able to come to lab:

- Offer in-lab, hybrid in-person & remote assessment (as detailed in previous slide).

For participants unwilling or unable to come to lab:

- Continue to offer fully remote sessions to those with equipment.

- Purchase equipment for those without access to conduct fully remote assessments.

GNRP Solutions

For participants willing & able to come to lab, perform in-lab, **hybrid in-person & remote assessments:**

- USE TWO ADJACENT ROOMS (MINIMIZES EXPOSURE)

- MINIMAL MASK WEARING FOR PARTICIPANT AND ASSESSOR IS A HUGE ADVANTAGE

- USE WEBCAMS

- Some tests are performed in person in PPE, most remotely

- Can enter room (in PPE) if there is any confusion on the part of the participant or technology problem

Resources: Webinars

https://www.pearsonassessments.com/professional-assessments/digital-solutions/telepractice/about.html

https://www.pearsonassessments.com/professional-assessments/digital-solutions/telepractice/webinars.html

https://www.navneuro.com/41-teleneuropsychology-with-dr-munro-cullum/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3QVr8ZMUb8&feature=youtu.be
(Jason Hassenstab)

Resources: References

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!