

Data Acquisition and Management Workshop

Thursday, February 16, 2006

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Room G23, Graduate School of Public Health

University of Pittsburgh

Fifth Avenue and DeSoto Street

Presenter: Dr. Scott Beach

This workshop will cover a range of issues related to the collection and management of self-report data in the social, behavioral and medical sciences through the use of surveys and questionnaires. Topics include design, formatting, and layout of data collection forms; interviewer training methods; questionnaire/data editing, cleaning and coding; and data entry and verification. Techniques for effective study documentation and communication are also covered, along with approaches to maintaining data security and respondent confidentiality for both paper-based and electronic data collection. The seminar will introduce newly emerging computerized data collection methods, and discuss their implications for data management and quality. Methods covered include computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI), personal interviewing (CAPI), self-interviewing (CASI), and internet- or web-based surveys. Recent innovations intended to increase respondent privacy when collecting data on sensitive topics, including interactive voice response (IVR) and audio computer-assisted self-interviewing (A-CASI) are discussed. Real-time data capture methods - use of electronic diaries and palm pilots to collect self-reports in the natural environment - are also introduced. Advantages and disadvantages of various data management and collection systems are discussed, with illustrative examples from UCSUR projects.

The workshop is intended for faculty, postdoctoral fellows, and graduate students with interests but limited experience in this area. If you have questions about the content of the workshop, contact Dr. Beach directly at scottb@pitt.edu.

To ensure adequate space, please contact Lori Liller Arnold at arnoldla@upmc.edu if you would like to attend this workshop.