

Study Instruments

Submitting finalized study instruments with your protocol

Study instruments include all the documents used in the study such as questionnaires, interview guides, focus groups prompts, experimental instructions, task scripts, pre-screening tools, etc.

- write the **study instruments** using clear, accessible, plain language appropriate for the participant population. For general audiences, this typically means a Grade 8 reading level. Use tools such as *The Hemingway Editor* to check the reading level of your text.

High-Risk Content in Study Instruments

Include sensitive questions and high-risk imagery or tasks only when essential to the research purpose and justify their use in the protocol

Familiarize yourself with CUREB's suicide ideation policy if your plan to ask questions about suicidal thought

If the study instruments include topics that may produce emotional or psychological distress, include mitigation strategies such as:

- support resources
- clear skip-option instructions and option to take breaks
- steps to be taken if procedures don't go as planned

Identifiers in Study Instruments

- Minimize the collection of identifying or potentially identifying information (direct and indirect identifiers)
 - Is the collection of identifying information necessary to the study (especially if sensitive information is being collected)?
- If the collection of identifiers is necessary to the study, justify their collection in the protocol
 - How are identifiers being collected, how will they be stored, when and how they will be removed or destroyed?