

# INNOVATIVE CLINICAL RESEARCH SOLUTIONS / INFORMATION SCIENCES DIVISION

At Nathan S. Kline Institute

### Web-based ACASI

## The Web-based ACASI Advantage

- Overcomes subject reluctance to reveal information about high-risk behaviors
- Can be administered anywhere, on any web browser, including smartphones and tablets
- Subject experiences a high degree of confidence that his/her information will be kept confidential
- Every respondent hears the question asked in exactly the same way every time, eliminating the possibility for reporting bias attributable to changes in questioner's inflection from one subject to the next or among visits for the same subject
- Supports complex questionnaires, skipping over questions made irrelevant by prior responses
- Offers the data entry consistency and range checking also offered by our Acquire EDC system
- Does not require a high level of literacy or experience with computers
- Allows returning to a partially completed questionnaire

Studies collecting sensitive data such as exposure to HIV, description of sexual behaviors, and admission of illicit drug use, have shown that subjects answering questions about such behaviors are more likely to provide accurate responses when questions are asked in an audio computer assisted format. This mode of interview reduces the possibility of interviewer bias, and affords increased privacy and confidentiality.

With the development of our Web-based ACASI system, Innovative Clinical Research Solutions supports the collection of accurate data in a cost effective manner. Our Web-based. Mobile- ACASI system reduces the impact of literacy problems, can be adapted to multiple languages, and offers the advantages of computer technology.



#### **How it Works**

Each question is displayed on screen and voiced to the respondent. For multiple-choice responses, each response is highlighted as the possible response is read. These features allow those subjects with literacy problems to participate in survey or assessment questionnaires.

If a subject moves forward without answering a question, two formerly hidden options, "I don't know" and "I don't want to answer," are displayed. Skip-jump logic guarantees that only those questions that are applicable as a result of a previous response are asked.



Respondents may hear the question again by simply clicking a button. Each question is saved as it is entered, to allow users to resume a partially-completed questionnaire at a later time.

ICRS developed this system to capture data in real time. After the subject enters a response to question and progresses to the next screen, the data is sent to a central database. Confidentiality is enhanced and there is no waiting for data to be entered or transported to central data management. This system is flexible and can be developed for any kind of study and survey.

#### **Behind the Scenes**

ICRS Web-based ACASI has been developed using the best proven system development technologies. When you select ICRS ACASI for studies involving collection of sensitive personal data, you are assured of a system in which your data is transmitted via a secure, encrypted internet connection, is stored securely in a central SQL Server database, and is CFR Title 21 Part 11 compliant.

#### **Key Benefits**

- Real time data collection
- Promotes confidentiality
- Ease of use
- Reduction of interviewer bias
- Increases subject candor
- More efficient use of research staff
- Literacy not an issue
- Minimal equipment needed
- Cost effective

