

Ensuring Scientific Integrity of a Statewide Survey of Transgender Health during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Scan for
Poster
Handout

Context

- Transgender and Gender Non-conforming people are an understudied at-risk population. Previous Virginia research collected >15 years ago.
- We sought to learn about the health status and social determinants of health for TGNC people in Virginia, and to evaluate their access to quality health care and psychological and behavioral factors related to increased HIV risk.

Methods

Original Study Design:

- Respondent Driven Sampling (n=1015)
- Phone call to complete survey

Problems:

- Detected Duplicates
- Very slow recruitment rate

Intervention:

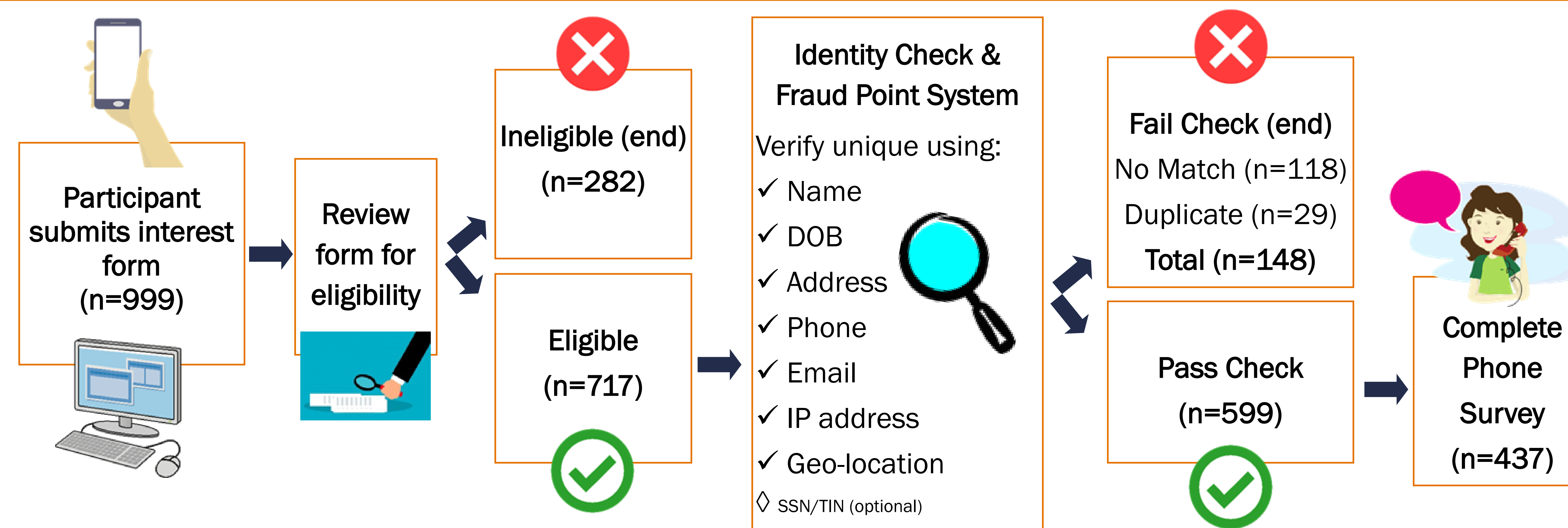
- Compared Contact Information
- Compared IP & Geo-location

64 applicants reviewed:
12 repeat respondents (18.8%)

New Study Design:

- Convenient Sampling (n=691)
- Fraud Point System
- Verify Identity: TLO Database

Procedural Flow



Results

Current Fraud Rates:

- 999 applications received
 - 118 ineligible for fraud
 - 28 duplicates
- 147 total fraud (20.5%)**

Optional Checks:

- 282 ineligible applicants for total fraud rate

Discussion

Identity checks are necessary

Considerations:

- Identity Checks for Ineligible applicants
- TGNC name changes
- Immigrant/International Status
 - *might not appear in database
- Young applicants (18-20)
 - * might not appear in database

Fraud Point System

Section	Point Value	Category	Requirement
Section 1			
*Points accumulated before identity verification			
Interest Form	2	IP Address & Device	Matches previous applicant and does not share device
	1	IP Address & Device	Matches previous applicant but does share device
	1	Geo-location	Matches previous applicant
	1	Email Address	Matches previous applicant
	1	Phone Number	Matches previous applicant
	1	Address	Matches previous applicant
	1	Address	Not in VA or bordering states (PA, MD, NC, WV, KY)
	1	DOB	Matches previous applicant
0		Lowest Possible Score for Section 1	
8		Highest Possible Score for Section 1	
Section 2			
*Identity verification report must match to a person			
Background check	1	Name #1	Name does not match on check
	1	Current Address #1	Address does not match on check
	2	DOB #1	DOB does not match on check
	1	DOB #2	DOB close match
	0		Lowest Possible Score for Section 2
4		Highest Possible Score for Section 2	
Section 3			
*Ask if already accrued 5 points OR if identity check does not match to a person			
Follow-Up	1	Previous Address #2	Previous address does not match on check
	1	SSN/TIN #1	Does not want to provide SSN/TIN
	1	SSN/TIN #2	Provides SSN/TIN but does not match on check
	0		Lowest Possible Score for Section 3
2		Highest Possible Score for Section 3	
Total Scores			
0		Lowest Possible Combined Score	
14		Highest Possible Combined Score	
Categorization			
<5	Valid Application	Proceed with Survey	
5-8	Potentially Fraudulent	Ask to clarify information for at least one category	
9+	Fraudulent	Reject from consideration for study	

Recommendations:

- Consider a variety of methods to verify
- Survey administered by a live person