

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 147

KNOW THE RISKS—AN INTERACTIVE HIV/AIDS INFORMATION AND PERSONAL RISK ASSESSMENT CENTER PHASE I

The purpose of this SBIR Phase I contract was to develop and test a theoretically informed, CD-ROM/DVD/Internet-based prevention tool called *Know the Risks: An Interactive HIV/AIDS Information and Personal Risk Assessment Center*. Designed for easy adaptation into clinical settings, *Know the Risks* will reduce practitioner burden by facilitating and streamlining HIV/AIDS education, risk assessment and behavioral counseling activities. The tool includes two key components: (1) an audio-enhanced, automatic progressing HIV/AIDS Risk Assessment Instrument and (2) a multi-media HIV/AIDS Learning Activities Center. The survey is designed to assist practitioners with risk screening and to provide a critical starting point for targeted prevention/behavior counseling. The Activities Center is designed to a) assist practitioners with HIV/AIDS information dissemination and education goals; and b) to empower clients by helping them identify the strengths and deficits of their HIV/AIDS knowledge, motivation, and behaviors. Phase I activities included the identification of candidate risk screening tools for the product, the convening of a scientist expert panel that reviewed the candidate instruments, focus group testing with HIV prevention practitioners, development and technological programming of the products' interface, risk assessment tool, and two Learning Center activities, usability testing of the prototype, and presentation of the prototype to NIMH staff.

Projected Phase II efforts for this project include an instrument validation study for the modified risk assessment survey, complete development and programming of the products' Learning Center activities, focus groups and usability testing with intended end-users of the product, and a field-test in clinic settings of both an English and Spanish version of the tool.

Phase II funding was subsequently awarded (see Project No. 157).

Sponsor: National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
Contracts Management Branch, ORM
6001 Executive Blvd., Rm. 8154, MSC 9661
Bethesda, Maryland 20892-9603
(301) 443-2696

Contract No: HHSN278200442091C Project Officer: Louis Steinberg, Ed.D.

Duration: 10/15/03—04/15/04 Budget: \$99,906

Staff: D. Dull Akers, T. Kuhn, J. Mince