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General Interviewing Techniques: Developing Evidence-Based Practices

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In March 2016, members of the development group made a presentation to AASRO entitled “Evidence-Based Interviewing Techniques for the Standardized Interview” in which they presented the theory/justification for updates they are making to the rules for conducting standardized interviews, as well as a demonstration of the accompanying training materials.

The development group presented a more comprehensive view of this initiative at the “Interviewers and Their Effects from a Total Survey Error Perspective Workshop” at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, February 2019.

Here, we provide an updated demonstration of the training materials. The intention is that upon their completion, these materials would become available to AASRO members.

Materials include:
- Online training videos
- Online assessments
- Reference guide
**Topics for interviewer training**

*Below is the complete list of topics proposed by the development group for inclusion in General Interviewing Techniques*

**Part 1. Introduction**

Lesson 1  Introduction  
Lesson 2  The Science of Survey Research

**Part 2. The Question-Answer Sequence**

Lesson 3  Question Reading  
Lesson 4  Question Form  
Lesson 5  How to Recognize a Codable Answer  
Lesson 6  Acknowledgments

**Part 3. Advanced Techniques**

Lesson 7  Follow-up: Basic Techniques  
Lesson 8  Follow-up: Advanced Techniques  
Lesson 9  The Respondent Says “Don’t Know” or Refuses  
Lesson 10  The Respondent Asks a Question: Requests for Repetition and Clarification  
Lesson 11  Training the Respondent

**Part 4. Special Topics**

Lesson 12  Choice Lists, Open Questions, and Field Coding  
Lesson 13  Interviewer Instructions  
Lesson 14  Groups of Questions: Filter-follow-up, Yes-No Checklists, Batteries, and Rosters

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