

**Pharmacy Food Environment: Promoting Sugary Snacks
at the Point of Prescription Drug Purchase
Data Collection Protocol**

Purpose

The purpose of the proposed study is to describe the availability, placement, and sales of candy, packaged snack foods and sweetened beverages in hospital, primary care clinic, and community retail pharmacies in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Materials Needed

- Survey Instrument
- Response options on flash card for interview questions
- Watch or clock
- Tape measure
- U of MN identification
- Researcher's contact card for pharmacy staff

Procedures

1. Enter the pharmacy and record the time on the Survey Instrument.
2. Record the following:
 - a. Date
 - b. Location
 - c. Type of pharmacy (hospital, clinic or commercial)
 - d. Whether food is sold (≤ 10 ft., >10 ft. or none)
 - e. Which surveyor is doing the measurements
3. Inquire with pharmacy staff:
 - a. Ask to speak with the pharmacy manager (COMMERCIAL) or head pharmacist (PRIMARY CARE/HOSPITAL). If pharmacy manager or head pharmacist is not available, ask for the shift supervisor or assistant pharmacist or whomever is in charge of the pharmacy.
4. Introduce yourself, explain the purpose of your visit and what you would like to do.
 - a. "Hello, I'm [NAME] and am a graduate student in the School of Public Health. We are conducting a study about the sale of foods in pharmacies across Minneapolis. It involves taking simple measurements of the shelf space and types of the food and beverages sold here. I would also like to ask you [or the pharmacist, if speaking with the store manager] a few questions about food and beverage sales in the pharmacy if you agree. The questions will take only a couple minutes and the measurements about another [TIME] minutes. Is it OK for me to collect this information?"

5. Next step based on answer to above question:
 - a. If NO, thank the person and then leave.
 - b. If YES, and the person you are speaking with is the PHARMACIST:
 - i. Proceed to the interview questions (see Interview Questions, below).
6. Proceed with Interview Questions (see below).
 - a. If the pharmacist is not willing to answer questions, thank them and proceed with the physical shelf space measurements and food and beverage counts.
7. Proceed with Food and Beverage Counts and Shelf Measurements (see below).
8. When finished, record the time again on the Survey Instrument.

Interview Questions

- If consent is received to conduct the interview:
 - a. Record the title of the participant (e.g., Store Manager, Head Pharmacist, etc.) on the Survey Instrument
 - b. Ask the participant the interview questions as they are written on the survey form
 - c. Show the respondent the response option flash card to provide a visual of the answer choices.
 - d. Thank them for their time.
- If consent is DECLINED for the interview:
 - a. Thank them for their time.
 - b. Record the title of the participant on the Survey Instrument.
 - c. Record on the Survey Instrument that the interview portion was declined.

Food and Beverage Counts and Shelf Measurements

1. If consent is received to conduct the measurements:
 - a. COUNT the number of items of each type of food or beverage available
 - i. TYPES are the categories of foods (e.g., chips, candy, beverages)
 - ii. ITEMS are the different products within those types (e.g., brands, sizes, flavors).
 - iii. Different brands of a similar item count as TWO DIFFERENT ITEMS.
 - iv. Different flavors of the same item count as TWO DIFFERENT ITEMS.
 - v. Different sizes of the same item are counted as TWO DIFFERENT ITEMS if the sizes fall within different ranges.
 - b. MEASURE the shelf space of each type of food
 - i. Use a flexible tape measure to measure (in inches) the length of each type of food on display

01. LENGTH is measured as the distance on the shelf from the left outer edge of an item within a particular food type to the right outer edge of all adjacent items within the same food type.
 02. If items of the same food type are displayed on multiple shelves, record the dimensions of each cluster separately and add together for a total shelf space measurement.
 - c. MEASURE the total shelf space of all food and beverage displays in the pharmacy area (>3 feet from the registers)
 - i. Use a flexible tape measure to measure (in inches) the length of one shelf in each display and count the number of shelves in that same display of the same length.
 - d. COUNT and MEASURE the number and space of food and beverage items near the pharmacy register (within 1 and 3 feet)
2. If consent is DECLINED to conduct the measurements:
 - a. Record that consent was not given to conduct the measurements at this site
 3. When finished, record time on the Survey Instrument.

Food Category Descriptions

Snack Items (typically more salty):

- Nuts
 - Packages containing solely nuts
- Trail mix
 - Listed as “trail mix” or a combination of nuts, dried fruit, and/or chocolate
- Granola bars
 - Such as NutriGrain, Nature Valley
- Energy bars
 - High protein bars, such as Luna Bar, Powerbar, Clif Bar
- Jerky
 - Beef or other, such as Jack Link’s, Oberto
- Pretzels
 - Anything listed as “pretzel”
- Popcorn
 - Any type or flavor of popcorn
- Crackers / snack mix
 - Includes Cheez-it, Chex Mix, Gardhetos
- Cookies
 - Oreos, Animal Crackers, Fig Newtons, other brand (chocolate chip, peanut butter...), Rice Krispie, Graham cracker products (e.g., Teddy Grahams)

Chip Items (typically potato):

- Chips
 - Potato chips, such as Doritos, Lays (baked and regular), or other brands

Candy Items (typically more sugary):

- Chocolate candy / bars
 - Any chocolate-based candy and/or candy bar, such as Kit Kat, Hersey, Snickers, m&m’s, Reese’s Pieces, York peppermint patties, Tootsie Rolls
- Single chocolate (truffle)
 - Any chocolates that are sold individually (may come as a set in one item), Lindt truffles
- Other non-chocolate candy
 - Such as Bit-O-Honey, candy necklaces, Smarties
- Hard candy
 - Such as Lifesavers, Jolly Ranchers
- Chewy candy
 - Such as Mentos, Starburst, Airheads, Skittles
- Licorice
 - Anything listed as licorice (black or red)
- Fruit snacks
 - Anything listed as a fruit snack
- Cereal
 - Anything listed as a cereal

- Mints
 - Any type of mint, including candy peppermints, Certs, Breathsavers, Listerine strips, Tic Tacs (any flavor)
- Gum
 - Anything listed as gum
- Sugar-free candy
 - Any candy that is listed as sugar-free

Beverage Items (anything liquid):

- Sugar sweetened soda
 - Any soda drink sweetened with caloric sugar, such as Coke, Pepsi
- Sugar sweetened (other)
 - Any non-soda drink sweetened with caloric sugar, such as Fuze, sports drinks
- Diet / no calorie soda
 - Any soda drink containing zero calories
- Diet / no calorie (other)
 - Any non-soda drink containing zero calories
- Juice
 - Anything listed as a juice
- Coffee drinks
 - Any coffee-based bottled beverage, such as iced coffee drinks
- Flavored water
 - Anything listed as a water with flavor
- Water
 - Any water that contains no flavor (no calories)