



Apoyo (Support) for Latin American Asylum-Seekers (ALAS): Pilot study to assess feasibility & acceptability of a *Promotora-led* COVID 19 testing intervention

**Kick Off Meeting
July 8, 2021**

WHO'S WHO ON THE TEAM

PI: Susan Pepin | Clinical Professor, College of Health Solutions

Co-PI: Hyunsung Oh | Associate Professor, School of Social Work

Co-I: Flavio F. Marsiglia | Regents Professor, School of Social Work

Co-I: Vel Murugan | BioDesign Institute

Key Community Partner: Tomas Leon | President, Equality Health Foundation

Anna Maria Maldonado, Project Coordinator | Equality Health Foundation

Edny Gonzalez, Director | Helping Families In Need

Christine McCaleb, Program Manager | Global Center for Applied Health Research

Kate De La Rosa, Research Specialist | Global Center for Applied Health Research

Shannon Bentley, Project Coordinator | Global Center for Applied Health Research

Crista Johnson, Director | Office of Refugee Health & Assistant Research Professor, ASU

Joanna Kitts, Contracts and Impact Manager | Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest

Sarah Eary, Associate Director Refugee & Immigration Services | Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest

Project Aims

- 1. Adapt R.A.P.I.D. intervention for target population & deliver 400 COVID-19 saliva tests**
 - Reviewing & revising current intervention model & processes
 - Reviewing & revising outreach and educational materials
 - Connecting case managers & asylum seeker support teams with *promotoras*
 - Delivering ALAS intervention model to 400 people
- 2. Determine feasibility & acceptability of the intervention through surveys (n=200) and focus groups (n=21)**
 - Administer pre and post survey to at least 200 participants/recipients of intervention
 - Conduct 3 focus groups with *promotoras*, case managers, and participants/recipients of intervention
 - Analyze data collected through surveys, focus groups and testing to assess feasibility & acceptability
- 3. Identify specific SDOH influencing the knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors related to COVID-19 mitigation and vaccine hesitancy among Latin American asylum-seekers**
 - Data entry, cleaning, matching and analysis (qualitative and quantitative)
 - Writing manuscripts/publications
 - Presenting results at conferences and to key community stakeholders



Covid-19 saliva test

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, you have qualified for a free COVID-19 saliva test to protect your health. The Town of Guadalupe along with partners are conducting homebound testing for the Elder community along with other qualifying community members.

What you need to know:

Date: Wednesdays-Fridays from 8a-12p

Location: The testing team will be coming to you.

Instructions for test & results

1 hour before:

Drink 1 glass of water.



30 minutes before:



NO smoking, eating, drinking any fluids INCLUDING WATER, vaping, gum or tobacco chewing.

This is a saliva test so a clean sample is needed.



Results:

Native Health will contact you with your results within 72 hours. If you do not have a phone to receive the call, you may go to Seewa Tomteme at 8066 S. Avenida del Yaqui on Fridays from 12pm-1pm to ask for your results.

If you have not received results after 72 hours, please call 602-329-3422 to hear your results.

COVID-19 saliva testing



ALAS Intervention Flow Chart

Outreach & Promotion (week 1-2)

- Public Education Materials
- Flyers for door-to-door
- Social media advertising
- Radio ads
- News coverage
- Networking CSAB contacts

COVID testing & education (week 3)

- Testing Consent (5 minutes)
- Survey Consent (5 minutes)
- Survey 1 (8 questions) (5 minutes)
- Saliva Sample Collection (10-45 minutes)
- Note that vaccines may also be made available, testing and surveying is conducted during the 15 min waiting period

Medical consultation & *Promotoras* follow up (week 3- 4)

- Delivery of testing result
- Tested POSITIVE: Medical consultation by a primary care provider
- Everyone: *Promotora* follow up call to check-in, coordinate support services, provide ongoing health education, assist with vaccine appointments, if necessary, ensure receipt of testing results, etc.

Survey 2 (week 8-10)

- Eligibility Criteria:
 - 1) aged 18 and older
 - 2) participated in the ALAS intervention
 - 3) identifies as Latin American
 - 4) has legal status as an asylum-seeker
 - 5) agreed to be contacted by us for the Phase 2 and Phase 3 survey
- Conduct survey 2 via phone, in-person, text, email, etc. (40-60 minutes)

Survey 3 (week 15)

- Eligibility Criteria:
 - 1) completed survey 2
- Conduct survey 3 via phone, in-person, text, email, etc. (40-60 minutes)

Data Collection: Surveys

Survey 1- Screening Survey (N=300)

- Conducted at time the COVID-19 testing is administered
- We expect at least 300 (75%) people to complete the screening survey
- 8 questions some demographic, some about attitudes and behaviors
- Delivered by paper

Survey 2 – Main Baseline Survey (Target N=200)

- Conducted 4 weeks after delivery of ALAS intervention
- Must have participated in survey 1
- We expect at least 200 people (67% of survey 1 participants; 50% of all participants) to complete this survey
- 45 questions, includes demographics, health history, family situation, COVID attitudes and behaviors, other SDOH related topics
- Delivered by phone interview or self-administered online

Survey 3 – Follow-up Survey (Target N=130)

- Conducted 12 weeks after delivery of ALAS intervention
- Must have participated in survey 2
- We expect at least 130 people (65% of survey 2 participants; 33% of all participants) to complete this survey
- 20 questions, includes demographics, health history, family situation, COVID attitudes and behaviors, other SDOH related topics
- Delivered by phone interview or self-administered online

Data Collection: Focus Groups

- 3 Focus Groups (Compensation: \$30)
 - *Promotoras* (N=7)
 - Case managers (N=7)
 - Asylum-seekers tested (N=7)
- Approximately 60-90 minutes.
- Areas of Discussion:
 - Experiences and potential challenges for asylum-seekers from Latin America while seeking COVID-19 testing in the US
 - Potential barriers to follow-up medical consultation if tested positive
 - Quality of the ALAS COVID-19 testing intervention
 - Challenges in scaling-up this intervention for asylum-seekers
- Conducted in-person if all participants are fully vaccinated with FDA-EUA vaccine
- Audio record conversation of the focus group; no video recording
- Participants reserve the right to ask for the recording to be stopped, to not answer any question, or to withdraw from the focus group at any time if they feel uncomfortable

Next Steps

Task	Timeline	Lead
Issue subawards	July-August	ASU- Christine EHF – Tomas LSS-SW- Joanna Kitts
Review intervention model	July-August	ASU- Hyunsung HFIN-Edny
Review & revise outreach and education materials	July-August	EHF- Tomas LSS-SW – Sarah Eary
Finalize survey tools & methods	July-August	ASU- Hyunsung LSS-SW – Sarah Eary
IRB application (in progress)	July-August	ASU- Hyunsung & Susan
Begin community outreach and conduct first testing activity	August-October	EHF- Anna Maria LSS-SW – Sarah Eary

*note: weekly research meetings through September, attend when able

Discussion Items

Note that we may not have time to address all discussion topics. Additional questions or discussion items can be mentioned during this meeting and will be covered during weekly team meetings.

- Survey eligibility
- Testing event model (single event, door-to-door or hybrid)
- Outreach strategies
- Retention strategies
- Anticipated needs or challenges unique to this population
- Role of the case manager vs *promotoras*