Lessons Learned from the Niños Sanos, Familia Sana
Multiple-Digital Data Collection System
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Abstract
"Niños Sanos, Familia Sana" is a 5-year multi-faceted intervention study aimed at preventing childhood obesity in Mexican-origin children. This project required the development and implementation of a comprehensive system for remote data collection from a rural area. Software and strategies were developed to improve data accuracy and validity, streamline communication between teams, and limit organizational inefficiency. Results show an increased capacity for large and diverse datasets as well as a manageable system for the organization of such data into a medium suitable for analysis. Internal validation and analysis was used to monitor data quality and processes. Further development and utilization of technology is critical to efficient and reliable data collection in rural remote settings.

Conclusions
- Use of multiple technologies and professional technical expertise for collection, retrieval, storage and processing of data reduces monetary costs, and errors, and allows for effective, timely, secure and seamless data managing processes.
- The development of customized tools (Field Team Application) to support organization and management of field and research team activities is an invaluable resource as it allows:
  1. Effective management of participant’s household-specific information and inventory of program compliance
  2. Capability of tracking data collection progress to guide research activities.
  3. Streamlined communication and collaboration among field team and research team.
  4. Multiple access and close monitoring of information for rapid decision-making and assessment of research efforts.

Next Steps
- Use of lessons learned to further develop and enhance data collection
- Further development of the Field Team Application
- Transfer of our data collection methodology to future studies

References

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Instruments and Surveys

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Advantages/Disadvantages
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