

**APPENDIX 1: Rapid Estimate of Adult Literacy in Medicine (REALM)**

ASK THE RESPONDENT TO READ ALOUD THE FOLLOWING WORDS, STARTING FROM LIST 1 AND THEN LIST 2 AND LIST 3.

Here are three lists of words. Please read them aloud to me. (GIVE EACH LIST TO RESPONDENT. CHECK WORDS HE/SHE CAN READ/PRONOUNCE CORRECTLY.)

<u>List 1</u>	<u>List 2</u>	<u>List 3</u>
fat _____	fatigue _____	allergic _____
flu _____	pelvic _____	menstrual _____
pill _____	jaundice _____	testicle _____
dose _____	infection _____	colitis _____
eye _____	exercise _____	emergency _____
stress _____	behavior _____	medication _____
smear _____	prescription _____	occupation _____
nerves _____	notify _____	sexually _____
germs _____	gallbladder _____	alcoholism _____
meals _____	calories _____	irritation _____
disease _____	depression _____	constipation _____
cancer _____	miscarriage _____	gonorrhea _____
caffeine _____	pregnancy _____	inflammatory _____
attack _____	arthritis _____	diabetes _____
kidney _____	nutrition _____	hepatitis _____
hormones _____	menopause _____	antibiotics _____
herpes _____	appendix _____	diagnosis _____
seizure _____	abnormal _____	potassium _____
bowel _____	syphilis _____	anemia _____
asthma _____	hemorrhoids _____	obesity _____
rectal _____	nausea _____	osteoporosis _____
incest _____	directed _____	impetigo _____

Score \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX 2: The 50 items of SAHLSA, rank-ordered according to the parameter *b* of item difficulty (keys and distracters are listed in the same random order as in the field interview)**

<b>Stem</b>	<b>Key or Distracter</b>		
1. próstata	__glándula	__circulación	__no se
2. empleo	__trabajo	__educación	__no se
3. menstrual	__mensual	__diario	__no se
4. gripe	__sano	__enfermo	__no se
5. avisar	__medir	__decir	__no se
6. comidas	__cena	__paseo	__no se
7. alcoholismo	__adicción	__recreo	__no se
8. grasa	__naranja	__mantequilla	__no se
9. asma	__respirar	__piel	__no se
10. cafeína	__energía	__agua	__no se
11. osteoporosis	__hueso	__músculo	__no se
12. depresión	__apetito	__sentimientos	__no se
13. estreñimiento	__bloqueado	__suelto	__no se
14. embarazo	__parto	__niñez	__no se
15. incesto	__familia	__vecinos	__no se
16. pastilla	__tableta	__galleta	__no se
17. testículo	__óvulo	__esperma	__no se
18. rectal	__regadera	__inodoro	__no se
19. ojo	__oír	__ver	__no se
20. irritación	__rígido	__adolorido	__no se
21. abnormal	__diferente	__similar	__no se
22. estrés	__preocupación	__feliz	__no se
23. aborto espontáneo	__pérdida	__matrimonio	__no se
24. ictericia	__amarillo	__blanco	__no se
25. pánico	__prueba	__vacuna	__no se
26. impétigo	__pelo	__piel	__no se
27. indicado	__instrucción	__decisión	__no se
28. ataque	__herida	__sano	__no se
29. menopausia	__señoras	__niñas	__no se
30. apéndice	__rascar	__dolor	__no se
31. comportamiento	__pensamiento	__conducta	__no se
32. nutrición	__saludable	__gaseosa	__no se
33. diabetes	__azúcar	__sal	__no se
34. sífilis	__anticonceptivo	__condón	__no se
35. inflamatorio	__hinchazón	__sudor	__no se
36. hemorroides	__venas	__corazón	__no se
37. herpes	__aire	__sexo	__no se
38. alérgico	__resistencia	__reacción	__no se
39. riñón	__orina	__fiebre	__no se
40. calorías	__alimentos	__vitaminas	__no se
41. medicamento	__instrumento	__tratamiento	__no se
42. anemia	__sangre	__nervio	__no se
43. intestinos	__digestión	__sudor	__no se
44. potasio	__mineral	__proteína	__no se

45. colitis	__intestino	__vejiga	__no se
46. obesidad	__peso	__altura	__no se
47. hepatitis	__pulmón	__hígado	__no se
48. vesícula biliar	__arteria	__órgano	__no se
49. convulsiones	__mareado	__tranquilo	__no se
50. artritis	__estómago	__articulación	__no se

### APPENDIX 3: Instruction for Administering SAHLSA-50

#### SHORT ASSESSMENT OF HEALTH LITERACY IN SPANISH-SPEAKING ADULTS (SAHLSA-50)

##### Interviewer's Instruction

The *Short Assessment of Health Literacy in Spanish-speaking Adults*, or *SHLSA-50*, contains 50 test items designed to assess a Spanish-speaking adult's ability to read and understand common medical terms. The test could help health professionals estimate the adult's health literacy level. Administration of the test could be facilitated by using laminated 4"×5" flash cards, with each card containing a medical term printed in boldface on the top and the two association words—i.e., the key and the distracter—at the bottom.

##### Directions to the Interviewer:

1. Before the test, the interviewer should say to the examinee:  
*"Le voy a mostrar tarjetas con 3 palabras en ellas. Primero, me gustaría que usted lea la palabra arriba en voz alta. Entonces, yo leeré las dos palabras debajo a usted y me gustaría que usted me dijera cuál de las dos palabras es más similar a la palabra arriba. Si usted no sabe la respuesta, por favor diga, 'no se'. No adivine."*
2. Show the examinee the first card.
3. The interviewer should say to the examinee:  
*"Ahora, por favor, lea la palabra arriba en voz alta."*
4. The interviewer should have a clipboard with a score sheet to record the examinee's answers. The clipboard should be held such that the examinee cannot see or be distracted by the scoring procedure.
5. The interviewer will then read the key and distracter (the two words at the bottom of the card) and then say:  
*"Cuál de las dos palabras es más similar a la palabra arriba? Si usted no sabe la respuesta, por favor diga, 'no se'."*
6. The interviewer may repeat the instructions so that the examinee feels comfortable with the procedure.
7. Continue the test with the rest of the cards.
8. A correct answer for each test item is determined by both correct pronunciation and accurate association. Each correct answer gets one point. Once the test is completed, the interviewer should tally the total points to generate the *SAHLSA-50* score.
9. A score between 0 and 37 suggests the examinee has inadequate health literacy.