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Dear Colleague:

Below is a copy of the Multidimensional Condom Attitudes Scales (MCAS). A paper discussing the scale and its psychometric properties is published in *Health Psychology*, issue 13, pages 224-237, 1994. You have my permission to use this scale in your research.

Given the fact that condom attitudes are multidimensional and cannot meaningfully be added to generate a single global score, it is very important that you score the 5 factors separately. Below is a list of which questions you would add to obtain the individual factors. If you do not have room to use all 25 questions, you may either select one or several of the factors that you are particularly interested in and use all 5 questions in that factor. You can also choose to select a few questions from each of the 5 factors. The important thing to remember is that our research shows that important information is lost if questions are added across factors.

You should also note that some items are worded negatively (i.e., indicate a negative attitude towards condom use) and score must therefore be reversed before addition. Each item that should be reverse-scored has an "R" at the end of that item. You should remove all the "R's" before giving the scale to participants.

MCAS Factors:

Reliability and effectiveness: Add questions 4, 6, 9, 14, and 20
Pleasure: Add questions 2, 8, 15, 19, and 25
Identity stigma: Add questions 3, 13, 18, 22, and 24
Embarrassment about negotiation and use: Add questions 1, 7, 12, 16, and 21
Embarrassment about purchase: Add questions 5, 10, 11, 17, and 23

I hope that you find the MCAS useful and I would be delighted to hear from you regarding how you used the scale and what results you obtained. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Marie Helweg-Larsen, Ph.D.
Professor, Dickinson College

ATTITUDES ABOUT CONDOMS

Please respond to all questions <u>even if you are not sexually</u> active or <u>have never used</u> (or had a partner who used) condoms. In such cases indicate how you <u>think you would feel</u> in such a situation.

Choose a number on the scale below that best represents your feelings about each statement. There are no right or wrong responses to any of these statements. Write the number that best represents your opinion in the blank beside each question.

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Slightly Disagree		Slightly Agree	Agree	Strongly Agree
1……...…..2...….….…3……….…..4……..…..5………….…..6……..…..7						

_____1. It is really hard to bring up the issue of using condoms to my partner. R
_____2. Use of a condom is an interruption of foreplay. R
_____3. Women think men who use condoms are jerks. R
_____4. Condoms are an effective method of preventing the spread of AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.
_____5. I always feel really uncomfortable when I buy condoms. R
_____6. Condoms are unreliable. R
_____7. When I suggest using a condom I am almost always embarrassed. R
_____8. Condoms ruin the sex act. R
_____9. I think condoms are an excellent means of contraception.
_____10. I don't think that buying condoms is awkward.
_____11. It is very embarrassing to buy condoms. R
_____12. It is easy to suggest to my partner that we use a condom.
_____13. If a couple is about to have sex and the man suggests using a condom, it is less likely that they will have sex. R
_____14. Condoms do not offer reliable protection. R
_____15. Condoms are a lot of fun.
_____16. I never know what to say when my partner and I need to talk about condoms or other protection. R
_____17. It would be embarrassing to be seen buying condoms in a store. R
_____18. People who suggest condom use are a little bit geeky. R
_____19. The use of condoms can make sex more stimulating.
_____20. Condoms are an effective method of birth control.
_____21. I'm comfortable talking about condoms with my partner.
_____22. Men who suggest using a condom are really boring. R
_____23. When I need condoms, I often dread having to get them. R
_____24. A woman who suggests using a condom does not trust her partner. R
_____25. Condoms are uncomfortable for both parties. R