

# A Theory-based Reproductive Health and Diabetes Instrument

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**Objectives:** To determine psychometric properties of scales within the theoretically based Reproductive Health Attitudes and Behavior (RHAB) instrument for examining preconception planning of young women with diabetes. Scales represented constructs from 3 social cognition models that can influence reproductive health behavior. **Methods:** Psychometrics were examined on data from a telephone interview on this 48-item instrument using a sample of 87 female adolescents

with diabetes from 4 medical centers. **Results:** Overall, the major factors (scales) clustered according to theoretical underpinning. Most Cronbach alphas were moderate (.60-.83). **Conclusions:** RHAB appears to have acceptable levels of validity/reliability for use with female adolescents with diabetes.

**Key words:** adolescent, diabetes, birth control and preconception counseling, psychometrics, social cognitive model

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