**Web Appendix 1**

**Interview guide**

Population of interest includes adults 60 years of age and older from Greater Lansing area. We will interview approximately the same numbers of females and males with a few ethnic minority representatives if possible. Recruitment sites include senior centers and outreach organizations working with older adults (e.g., Meridian Township Senior Center; East Lansing Senior Center; Lansing Senior Center; Hannah Center; Area Agency on Aging; Libraries; etc.); assisted and independent living communities; university and community listservs and other online recruitment systems (e.g., SONA system; MSU Alumni and Parents Listservs; etc.). Interviews will be conducted at places of interviewees' convenience. These can include but are not limited by senior centers, interviewees' homes, coffee shops, or MSU campus, depending on what is the most convenient place for interviewees to meet.

**Introduction, ground rules, and overview**

Hello and welcome. Thank you very much for agreeing to meet with me/us and take part in this interview project. My name is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , and these are my colleagues \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

Let me make sure that we have the right person scheduled for the interview. Were you born before 1949 (65+ sample) / 1954 (60+ sample)? Do you live in the Greater Lansing area?

Before we start with the interview, we have a consent form for you to read and sign. Please take your time reviewing it and ask us questions if you have any. If you agree to participate in this interview, please sign the consent form at the end.

Once again, thank you very much for agreeing to meet with us. Today we will discuss how people use traditional and new media and how they multitask with media. By traditional media we mean newspapers, magazines, television, and radio. We will also talk about landline phones as a type of traditional technology. New media include the Internet (computers), mobile phones and other mobile devices (e.g., tablet computers, iPods), and computer and video games. We will also talk about how you use different media and do other things at the same time. We call this media multitasking, or, literally, doing multiple tasks at the same time. For example, you can listen to radio and cook. You can watch television and clean or interact with family/friends. You can talk on the phone and check your email. We call all these situations “multitasking with media”.

Over the course of the interview, we will ask you questions about your media use. We will predominantly focus on the use of new media, such as Internet, games, and mobile phones, and media multitasking. We will also ask you how you combine using these media with other activities (multitasking). Finally, we will also ask for your suggestions about the best ways to measure people’s media use and media multitasking behaviors. The whole procedure shouldn’t take longer than one hour and 30 minutes.

We will record your answers on a digital audio recorder because we don’t want to miss anything you say. Your name will not be recorded and it will not appear in any reports. We guarantee that your participation in the study is anonymous and your answers will be kept confidential. Some of us will also take notes on paper, and we guarantee that we will not write down your name on paper.

There are no right or wrong answers in this interview. We are genuinely interested in your opinions about media use and media multitasking. We also would appreciate your help and suggestions about how we could study such activities.

I think we are ready to start. Before we begin, do you have any questions about what I have said so far?

*--- answer questions if the participant has any ---*

***Introduction***

1. Could you please tell us a little bit about yourself? Remember that there is no need to give us your name.
2. We are here to ask you some questions about how you use media every day. Once again, by media we mean newspapers, magazines, television, radio, games, Internet/computer, mobile phone, etc.
   1. Think about your average day. What media do you use on a typical or average day?
   2. When in the day do you use these media?
   3. Where do you use media (location in the house, outside, etc.)?
   4. Do you use media differently on weekdays and weekends? How?

***Traditional media & technology***

1. Tell us if and on what occasions you use any of the following:
   1. Newspapers (paper copies),
   2. Magazines (paper copies),
   3. Radio,
   4. Television,
   5. Landline phone.
2. Follow-up to Question 3: why do or don’t you use these media?

***New ICT***

1. What about newer media, such as Internet, mobile phones, computer/video games? Do you use any of these media? Which ones? *(Ask follow-up questions for each new medium the interviewee mentions)*
   1. Internet
      1. What devices do you use to access the Internet?
      2. What Internet options do you use and why? In other words, what do you do when you are online/use the Internet (e.g., social media, email, online search, reading health information and news, shopping and making reservations)
      3. When and where do you use the Internet?
   2. Mobile phones
      1. What type of mobile phone do you have?
      2. What do you usually do on your mobile phone (e.g., voice call, texting, smartphone options)
      3. When and where do you use mobile phones?
   3. Video and computer games
      1. What devices to you use to play games?
      2. What games do you play?
      3. Why do you play games?
      4. When and where do you play games?
      5. Do you play with other people online or mostly by yourself on the computer?

***Multitasking***

1. It often happens that we use media while doing something else. We call this behavior media multitasking. For example, we can have a morning coffee and read a newspaper, clean/fold laundry and watch television, listen to the radio and drive, talk on the phone and eat, listen to music, play games, and interact with family/friends. Can you think of any situations in which you use media and do something else?
   1. What types of things do you typically do together? In other words, how often do you engage in such multitasking behaviors?
   2. Where do you usually multitask with media?
   3. Why do you multitask with media?

*If the participant has difficulties recalling multitasking situations, we can ask about them medium by medium. E.g., when you watch TV, what else do you do at the same time?*

1. Do you use different media together (for example using phone and television at the same time or checking email and reading a newspaper at the same time)?
   1. What media do you usually combine with other media?
   2. How often do you combine media with other media?
   3. Why do you do it?
2. When you’re trying to use different media together, how do you feel about doing things you’re trying to do? In other words, how do you feel about your performance on tasks that you combine? Is it easier or harder when you do things together? Why or why not?

***Measures***

1. We do research on media use and media multitasking. We are trying to develop new ways to determine how people use media and multitask in addition to just asking people what they do. If you agreed to participate in a study about media use and media multitasking, would you allow us to enter your home to ask you some questions and/or observe you using different media for a few hours?
   1. How about for a few hours each day for several days (4-5 days)?
2. If you agreed to participate in a study about media use and media multitasking, what would you allow us to do in your home? *(Ask why or why not for each of these)*
   1. Would you allow us to visit your home for a few hours and observe your behaviors?
   2. Would you allow us to install some software on your computer and/or mobile phone that could provide us with information on the types of activities and times that you use each of these devices for?
   3. Would you allow us to install cameras in your home?
      1. If yes, how many cameras would you allow in the house and where would you allow us to install them?
   4. Would you be willing to show us how you multitask with certain media in your house and measure how much you achieve in or remember from each task?
3. What do you think about filling out diaries, which will require you to answer questions several times a day during one week?
   1. Would you prefer paper-and-pencil diaries or would you be more comfortable answering questions on a mobile device (phone, pages, beeper, computer)?
   2. Imagine that we would send you 3-5 questions on a mobile device. We would send them at random times several times a day. Would you be willing to answer these questions as they are sent to you several times a day over the course of a week?
4. What type of compensation would you expect for participation in a study on media use and media multitasking?
   1. If we only asked you to fill out short surveys a few times per day for a week on paper or on a mobile device?
   2. If we wanted to come into your home and observe you for a few hours for several days?
   3. If we wanted to install some software on your computer and/or mobile phone?
   4. If we wanted to install cameras in your home for a week?
   5. If we asked you to show us how you multitask with media and then measure the outcome (how much you remembered or achieved in a task)?
   6. Others? – *if there is anything else the participant mentions*

**Summary/closing remarks**

Is there anything else you would like to add about multitasking, how researchers could best measure multitasking, or anything related to media/technology and multitasking?

We have a short survey asking standard demographic questions. Could you please fill it out for us?

Thank you very much for taking part in this interview. We appreciate your answers very much. If you have any questions about the research and its findings, please contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .