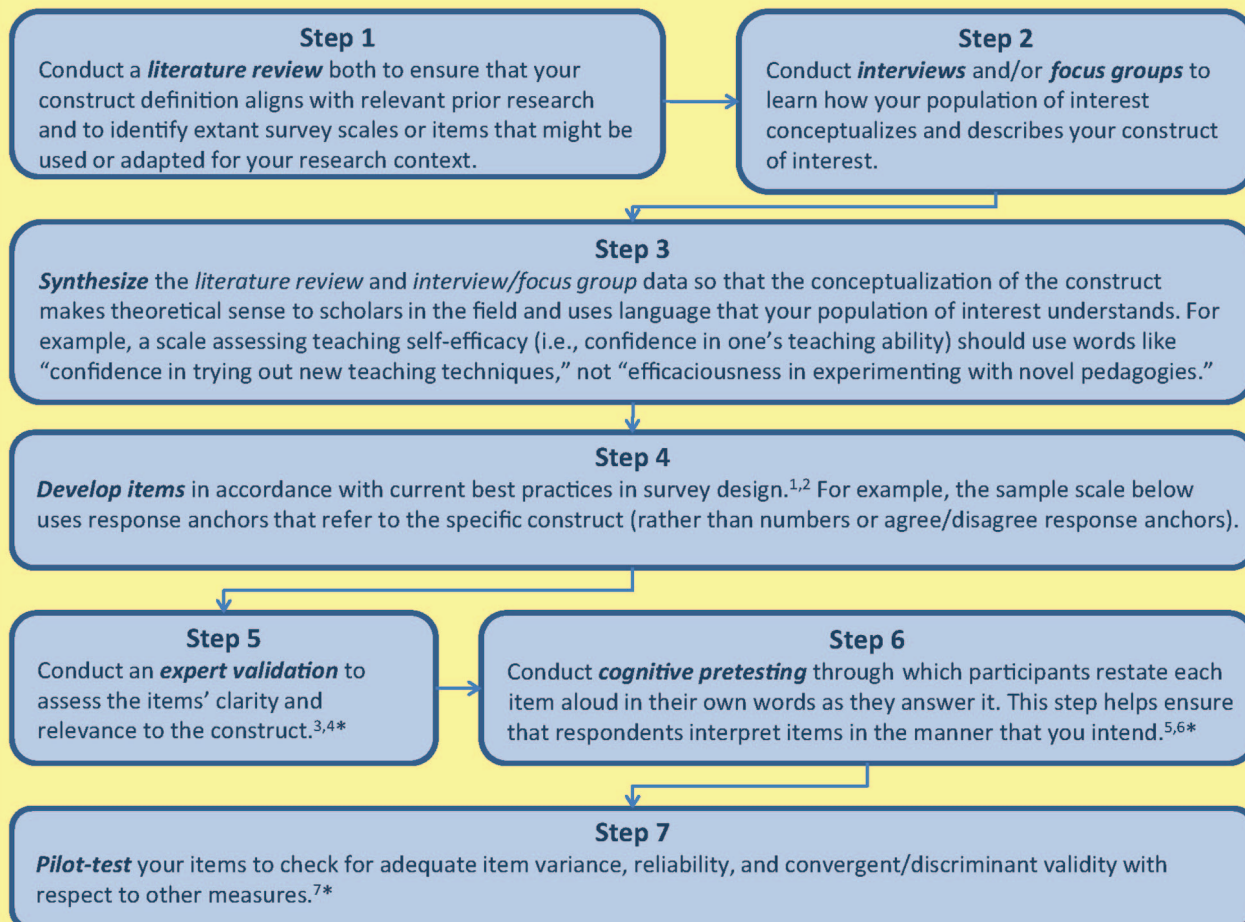


AM Last Page: Survey Development Guidance for Medical Education Researchers

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Medical education researchers frequently rely on survey data. For example, of *Academic Medicine's* 141 research articles from 2009, over half (56%) used surveys. Yet, the literature provides limited guidance on which processes best facilitate the development of surveys—particularly in the design of survey scales (i.e., several items that assess a single underlying construct such as physician empathy or teaching self-efficacy; see example below). This flowchart presents seven steps to facilitate the construction of valid and reliable survey scales.



***Note:** After you complete each of these final steps, you may need to revise items and/or repeat steps from this part of the process.

Sample Items From a Teaching Self-Efficacy Scale

1. How confident are you that you can help students remember what they learned in your class?
2. When you need to teach less interesting topics, how confident are you that you can keep all students engaged?
3. How confident are you that you can help students learn when they are unmotivated?
4. How confident are you that you can get through to the most difficult students?

5-point, Likert-type response scale:

Not at all confident	Slightly confident	Moderately confident	Quite confident	Extremely confident
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