**Messages Scanner Task**

**Cited Papers as of April 24th 2016:**

Kang, Y., Pandey, P., Cooper, N., Scholz, C., O'Donnell, M. B., Elliott, A. M., Pegors, T. K., Lieberman, M. D., Taylor, S. E., Strecher, V. J., Dal Cin, S., Konrath, S., Polk, T., Resnicow, K., An, L., & Falk, E. B (2017, to be presented in May). Increasing Receptivity to Health Communications: Effects of Self-Transcendence and Affirmation Priming on Neural Responses to Health Messages and Behavior Change, Paper to be presented at the meeting of the International Communication Association, San Diego, California.

**Task Description:**

1. There were 3 types of health messages with the total number of 30. In addition, 3 types of control messages with the total number of 30 were included. Please see the stimuli document for a complete list of messages. Each of the how, why, risk message pair was matched by a theme (e.g., aging, cancer, diabetes)

10 activity\_how: how one could be more active and less sedentary

10 activity\_why: why one should be more active and less sedentary

10 activity\_risk: messages highlighting the risk of being sedentary and not active

plus

10 control\_how: how one could do other daily activities unrelated to physical activity

10 control\_why: why one should do other daily activities unrelated to physical activity

10 control\_risk: messages highlighting the risk of doing or not doing other daily activities unrelated to physical activity

1. In the Messages Task, all participants received 30 health messages and 30 control messages across two runs in even proportions in a randomized order.
2. Participants were given a random selection of 10 risk messages from the pool of 16 risk messages.
3. Task timing for each message block
   1. Health message (8 s, pictogram and audio accompanied)
   2. Relevance rating (4 s, “Indicate how relevant each statement is to you, 1=not relevant-4=relevant”)
   3. Blocks were separated by fixation rest periods (3 s); every fifth block contained a longer (12 s) block of rest.
4. The risk messages were presented on a single screen for 10 seconds with accompanying audio.
5. For the full list of health messages, see “stimuli.csv”