## Bringing Order to Complexity in Claim Forms

An RGA Behavioral Science Study

Understanding a claimant's occupational duties is essential, but information received via conventional claim forms is often poor. RGA's behavioral science team studied this challenge, leading to better disclosures and a simpler experience for assessors and claimants.

Here's what we've learned from a global experiment of 8,000 participants representing the populations of Australia, Canada, South Africa, and the U.S.

## WHY DO CLAIMANTS PROVIDE POOR INFORMATION?

Open-ended questions require a lot of thought to answer, and claimants are uncertain about what information is needed, resulting in incomplete disclosure.

Questions that help claimants process the information produce better answers.

**Checklists** make the thought process easier and promote higher quality responses.



In a typical work day, how much of your time is spent on the following duties?

A little

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KEY FINDINGS

Quality of information received from **free text questions** rated by claims assessors as

Quality of information provided from **short checklist** was rated

OUT **10** 

Administrative/ desk duties

Supervisory

Executive





Short checklists were seen by participants as being **easier to complete** and clearer regarding what information to record, encouraging more disclosure.

Short checklists took only 16 seconds longer on average to complete than free text, and were rated as **quicker to answer** than free text



Participants suggested open-ended questions needed more structure and detail whereas checklists were easy.

