

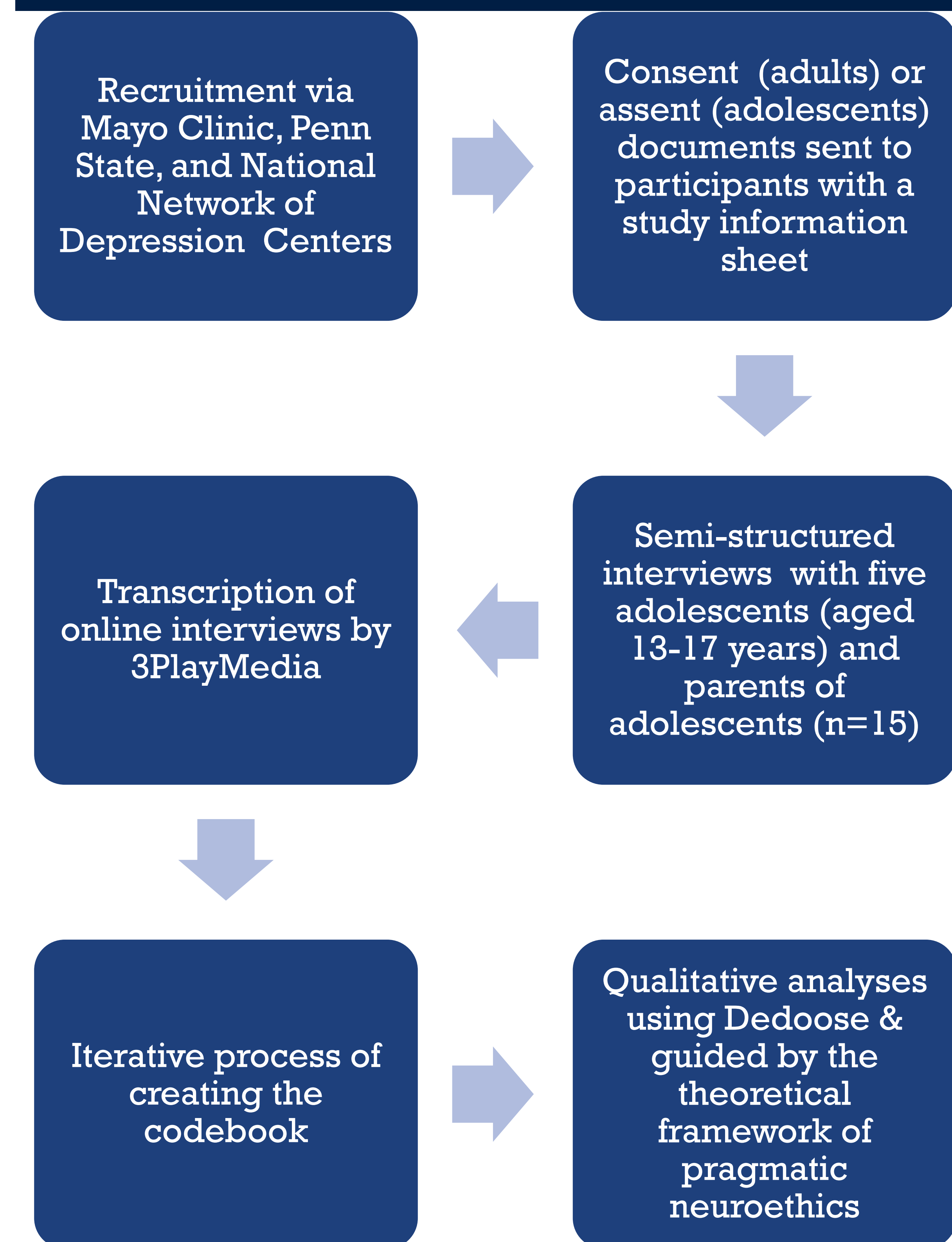
## Background

Investigation into attitudes and ethical concerns around the use of repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) for adolescents is of high priority, given that emerging studies are examining the safety and efficacy for this patient population. Informed consent and agency have also been identified as presenting a special set of challenges for adolescent treatment.

This study examines both adolescents and parental attitudes toward the use of TMS in adolescent depression. Inclusion of the latter group is key given the necessary role of parents in consenting to treatment. While there are a few studies examining the views of adolescents and parents in relation to TMS for adolescents with depression, these have not been studied in the US.

This study provides insights into the attitudes and ethical concerns of adolescents and parents about TMS. The overall lack of knowledge around TMS highlights the need for further work in engaging with the public about these types of interventions.

## Methods



## Results

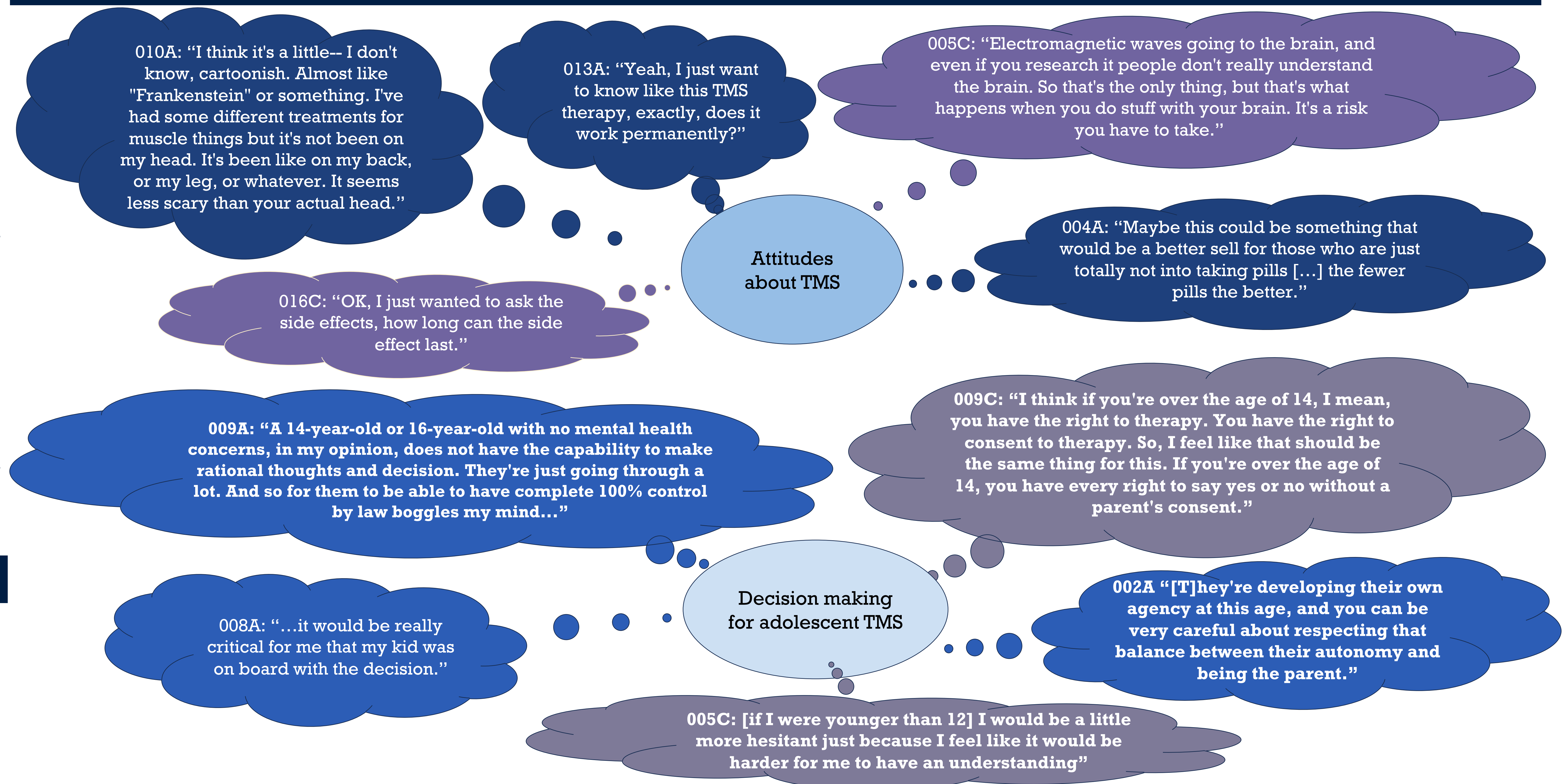


Table 1. Description of the Study Samples

	Parents of Adolescents (n=15)	Adolescents (n=5)
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	5 (33.33%)	3 (60%)
Female	10 (66.67%)	2 (20%)
<b>Age</b>		
Median	N/A	16
Range	26-35 (n=1, 6.67%) 36-45 (n=10, 66.57%) 46-55 (n=4, 26.67%)	13-17
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
Hispanic	2 (13.33%)	1 (20%)
Non-Latino White	5 (33.33%)	2 (40%)
African American	6 (40%)	2 (40.0%)
Other	2 (13.3%)	0 (0%)
<b>Education</b>		
Middle school	N/A	2(40%)
High school	N/A	3 (60%)
College 4 years +	5 (33.33%)	N/A
Advanced degree	9 (60%)	N/A
Professional certificate	1 (6.67%)	N/A

## Discussion

- TMS was considered a safe and promising intervention for the treatment of adolescent depression
- Most participants were not aware of TMS and did not have strong preferences or ethical concerns for or against the use of TMS to treat adolescents with depression
- Participants worried about the side effects and long-term effects of TMS in adolescents, but also about the side effects and risks associated with antidepressant medication
- Most parents agreed that time constraints and availability of clinics is a key consideration in their decision-making process
- Adolescents' involvement in decision making varied greatly

## Conclusions

- Parents have interest in the application of TMS as a treatment for adolescent depression and point to future practical considerations that remain to be addressed in order to harness this powerful tool for this patient population.
- Furthermore, future work in educating the general public on what TMS is and how it works would be needed to allow TMS to become a socially acceptable treatment method for depression in adolescents.

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank our participants for their time. This work was supported by the National Network of Depression Centers.

Disclosures: None