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Subject: Selecting one child per mother

Posted by [caroline.mckenna](#) on Wed, 16 Jan 2019 16:54:13 GMT

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Hello,

I am an undergraduate student investigating the association between women's decision-making variables (participation in decisions regarding spending income, her healthcare, major household purchases, visits to family and relatives) and stunting and wasting in her children under five. I am using the 2013-14 Democratic Republic of the Congo DHS.

I already created dichotomous variables for "Stunting Status" where  $HAZ < -2$  SD and "Wasting Status" where  $WHZ < -2$  SD according to WHO child growth standards. I currently have the child data set with linked mothers, but the problem is that the mothers are duplicated if they have several children (ex if a mother has 6 children, her data is counted 6 times). Now, I would like to randomly select one child per mother to create "mother-child pairs." Specifically, I would like to classify a mother-child pair as "exposed/malnourished" if the mother has at least one child who is stunted/wasted. How would I do this?

Thanks!

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