**Suggestions for revisions to the Domestic Violence module**

A. Consider language that reflects current understanding of the dynamics of intimate partner relationships, and not just whether someone is married or “living” with a man.

**DV02**: Asks whether respondent is currently (or formerly) married / living with a man. If the response is no, questions 3-15 (on IPV) are skipped.

* SUGGESTION: Ask questions 3-15 of all respondents, including those who are not/ have not been married or lived with a man. This would give a more robust picture of manifestations of IPV in cases where a woman is not currently married or living with a man, but considers herself to be in an intimate partnership.
* IMPLICATIONS: The skip pattern would need to change, and information about the partner would need to be collected in order to inform interventions. Such data would strengthen understanding of IPV in non-marital, non-cohabitating situations, and its implications for health. One possibility would be to pilot this as a separate module in one or two countries conducting the DHS.

B. Consider addressing the issue of experiencing or witnessing violence against children. Recent data have highlighted a) the impact of witnessing violence as a child on child as well as longer term adult health outcomes, and b) gaps in understanding dynamics and prevalence of such violence, especially at sub-national levels.

**DV09:** Have you ever hit, slapped, kicked, or done anything else to physically hurt your (last) (husband/partner) at times when he was not beating or physically hurting you?

* SUGGESTION: Add separate indicator/question: “Have you ever hit, slapped, kicked, or done anything else to physically hurt your child/children?”
* SUGGESTION: Add a question specifically asking whether the respondent ever witnessed violence against a child. Include list of manifestations from VAC.
* IMPLICATIONS: There may be implications related to ensuring specific services are in place, but the questions would be retroactive, and not asked of children. One possibility would be to pilot these questions separately in one or two countries conducting the DHS.

C. Need to ensure language does not unintentionally infer any sense of volition /blame on the part of the women, and importantly, on the part of children, if asking about experiences as a child.

**DV22A**: At any time in your life, as a child or as an adult, has anyone ever force you in any way to have sexual intercourse or perform…

* SUGGESTION: Instead of using the word “force,” use terminology that clarifies the woman/child is not to blame at all i.e. ‘tricked, coerced…”
* SUGGESTION: Include expanded definition/examples that elucidate specific manifestations of violence against children, for example, withholding food.