

# **Demographic and Health Survey**

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## **Interviewer's Manual - *Excerpt***

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**ICF International  
Rockville, Maryland**

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The DHS Program is a five-year project to assist institutions in collecting and analyzing data needed to plan, monitor, and evaluate population, health, and nutrition programs. The DHS Program is funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The project is implemented by ICF International in Rockville, Maryland USA, in partnership with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health/Center for Communication Programs, the Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), Avenir Health, Vysnova Partners, Blue Raster, EnCompass, and Kimetrica.

The main objectives of The DHS Program are to: 1) provide improved information through appropriate data collection, analysis, and evaluation; 2) improve coordination and partnerships in data collection at the international and country levels; 3) increase host-country institutionalization of data collection capacity; 4) improve data collection and analysis tools and methodologies; and 5) improve the dissemination and utilization of data.

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Breastfeeding is important for fertility and for a child's health and nutrition. For this question, it does not matter how long the respondent breastfed the child, only whether or not she ever gave the child the breast, even if the baby died very young.

**Q. 465: FILTER FOR LIVING CHILD**

**Q. 466: WHEN BREASTFEEDING BEGAN**

If the mother reports that the baby was put to the breast immediately after birth, circle '000.' Otherwise, record the time in completed hours or days.

*Example:* The woman said she began breastfeeding within an hour of the birth. Circle '1' and record '00' hours.

*Example:* The woman said she began breastfeeding 30 hours after the birth. Circle '2' (DAYS) and record '01'.

**Q. 467 PRELACTEAL FEEDING**

These questions are asked to find out whether the baby was given any fluid other than breast milk before the mother's breast milk began to flow regularly. Examples of prelacteal feedings include cow's milk, plain water, sugar or glucose water, gripe water, fruit juice, infant formula, tea or infusions, coffee, and honey.

**Q. 468: FILTER FOR LIVING CHILD**

**Q. 469: STILL BREASTFEEDING**

Q. 469 is only asked if the child is still alive (see filter in Q.468). Note that for Q. 469, it does not matter whether the respondent is giving the child other liquids or foods as well; we are interested in knowing whether the child is being breastfed at all.

**Q. 470: BOTTLE WITH NIPPLE**

The use of bottles with nipples can be unsanitary and can indicate early or inappropriate weaning. You should record 'YES' if the child was given anything in a bottle during the day or night before the interview.

**Q. 471: FILTER FOR NEXT CHILD**

At this point, go back to Q. 405 to ask questions in Section 4 for the child in the next column. If you have finished these questions for all births in the last five years, proceed to Q. 501A.

**F. Section 5: Child Immunization**

There are several important differences between Sections 4 and 5. First, Section 4 obtains information for births between [2010 and 2015] while Section 5 is restricted to births between [2012 and 2015]. Second, Section 4 has columns for the last birth and next-to-last birth while Section 5 does not. Instead, Section 5 is divided into sub-sections: Section 5A asks questions about the last birth and Section 5B asks identical question about the next-to-last birth. Third, Section 4 obtains information for both living and dead children, while Section 5 obtains information only for living children.

Note that all question numbers in Section 5A are followed by an ‘A’ and all question numbers in Section 5B are followed by a ‘B’. For the sake of simplicity, below the manual will reference the question numbers in Section 5A and not the identical questions in Section 5B.

#### Section 5A: CHILD IMMUNIZATION (LAST BIRTH)

##### Qs. 501A-503A: FILTER FOR CHILDREN ELIGIBLE FOR SECTION 5

Complete Qs. 501A-503A by first checking Q. 215 in the birth history to determine if there were any births between [2012 and 2015]. If YES, check Q. 212 and fill in the child’s name and birth history number (Q. 502A), and survival status (Q. 503A) on this page. If the child corresponding to the last birth is dead, skip to 501B. If the child is alive, write the child’s name and birth history number at the top of each of the subsequent pages in Section 5A and proceed to Q. 504A.

##### Q. 504A: VACCINATION (HEALTH) CARD OR OTHER DOCUMENT

You should have obtained documentation (birth certificates and vaccination (health) cards or booklets) for eligible children at the beginning of the interview. If you have not already collected the vaccination (health) card(s), ask the respondent to look for the card(s).

Note, in some cases, respondents may not have vaccination (health) cards for their child, but may have a notebook or other document in which this information is recorded. Alternatively, they may have a notebook in addition to a vaccination (health) card. Be sure to ask the respondent to look for these other documents too.

The respondent may hesitate to take time to look for the card(s) or other documentation thinking that you are in a hurry. Since it is critical to obtain written documentation of the vaccination history for all eligible children, be patient if the respondent needs to search for the card(s) or other documentation.

If the respondent has a vaccination card for the child and no other document where vaccinations are recorded, record YES, HAS ONLY CARD and skip to 507A. If the respondent has a document where vaccinations are recorded but not a card, record YES, HAS ONLY ANOTHER DOCUMENT. If the respondent has both a card and another other document, record, YES, HAS A CARD AND OTHER DOCUMENT and skip to 507A. If the respondent has neither a card nor any other documents indicating the vaccinations the child has received, record NO, NO CARD AND NO OTHER DOCUMENT.

##### Q. 505A: EVER HAD VACCINATION (HEALTH) CARD

If, in Q. 504A the woman tells you she does not have a vaccination (health) card for her child or any other document, ask her in this question whether she ever had a vaccination card for that child. It is possible that she at one time did have a card, but no longer has it.

##### Q. 506A: FILTER FOR VACCINATION (HEALTH) CARD

##### Q. 507A: VACCINATION (HEALTH) CARD OR OTHER DOCUMENT SEEN

Q. 507A is directed at respondents who have said their child has a vaccination (health) card or another document on which the child’s vaccinations are written. Ask to see the vaccination (health) card and/or other document.

If the respondent shows you a card and no other documentation, record YES, ONLY CARD SEEN. If she does not show you a card, but does show you another document, record YES, ONLY OTHER DOCUMENT SEEN. If she shows you both a card and another document, record, YES, CARD AND OTHER DOCUMENT SEEN.

If the respondent says she is unable to show her child's card or other document to you because she someone else has it or it is not accessible to her during the interview, record NO CARD AND NO OTHER DOCUMENT SEEN and skip to 511A.

**Q. 508A: RECORDING VACCINATIONS**

If you have a vaccination (health) card for the child, fill in the responses to Q. 508A, taking the information directly from the card. When there is more than one eligible child born between [2012 and 2015], be certain to match the correct card with the child you are asking about.

Before copying dates from the card to Q. 508A, examine the card carefully. The card may list the vaccinations in a different order than the questionnaire. Also Q. 508A requires dates to be recorded with the day first, then the month and then the year. Check the card carefully to see which way the dates are written because sometimes the month might come first, followed by the day and year. Be very careful to record dates correctly.

Besides recording vaccination dates on the card, some health facilities may also record the dates (appointments) on which the mother should bring her child for the next vaccination. Be very careful not to record a scheduled appointment date as a vaccination date. It is possible that an appointment date was given, but the child never received the vaccination. Only record dates that vaccinations were actually given, and not dates of appointments. Be patient and read the card thoroughly.

If the card shows the year a vaccination was given but either the day, or the month, or both the day and the month are missing, record '98' in the column for which the information is not given.

*Example:* If the date given was July 2014, you would record '98' for DAY, '07' for MONTH, and '2014' for YEAR.

*Example:* If the date given was 2015, you would record '98' for DAY, '98' for MONTH, and '2015' for YEAR.

If the card shows that a vaccination was given, but there is no date recorded, record '44' in the DAY column next to the vaccine and leave the month and year blank. Again, be careful to examine the card closely. For example, if a date is given for a DPT-HEPB-HIB/pentavalent vaccination and there is simply a check to show that a polio vaccine was also given, record the date of the DPT-HEPB-HIB/pentavalent injection on the polio line since the check probably indicates that the vaccinations were given on the same day. Some vaccination cards have only a single line for DPT-HEPB-HIB/pentavalent 1 and POLIO 1, DPT-HEPB-HIB/pentavalent 2 and POLIO 2, etc. If there is a date on just one of these lines, record the same date for both the DPT-HEPB-HIB/pentavalent and polio injections.

If a vaccination was not given (i.e., there is neither a date nor a check mark next to a specific vaccine) record '00' in the DAY column next to the vaccine and leave the month and year blank.

*Example:*

Mary's health card (left panel) was used to complete Q. 508A (right panel):

Mary's health card		Q. 508A								
			DAY		MONTH		YEAR			
BCG	20 May 2013	BCG	2	0	0	5	2	0	1	3
Hep B0	20 May 2013	HEPATITIS B AT BIRTH	2	0	0	5	2	0	1	3
Polio 0	20 May 2013	POLIO 0 (POLIO GIVEN AT BIRTH)	2	0	0	5	2	0	1	3
Polio 1	August 25, 2013	POLIO 1	2	5	0	8	2	0	1	3
Polio 2	October 2013	POLIO 2	9	8	1	0	2	0	1	3
Polio 3	No date	POLIO 3	0	0						
DPT-HepB-Hib 1	25 August 2013	DPT-HepB-Hib 1	2	5	0	8	2	0	1	3
DPT-HepB-Hib 2	October, 2013	DPT-HepB-Hib 2	9	8	1	0	2	0	1	3
DPT-HepB-Hib 3	No date	DPT-HepB-Hib 3	0	0						
Rotavirus 1	25 August 2013	ROTAVIRUS 1	2	5	0	8	2	0	1	3
Rotavirus 2	2013	ROTAVIRUS 2	9	8	9	8	2	0	1	3
Measles	Given, no date	MEASLES	4	4						
Vitamin A	9 October, 2013	VITAMIN A (MOST RECENT)	0	9	1	0	2	0	1	3

#### Q. 509A: FILTER FOR COMPLETE VACCINATION

#### Q. 510A: ANY VACCINES GIVEN BUT NOT RECORDED

Sometimes a child receives a vaccine but no record is made on the vaccination (health) card. After copying the card, ask the respondent whether the child received any vaccinations that are not recorded on the card. This includes vaccination given in national immunization campaigns or child health days.

If the mother reports that the child did receive a vaccination for which no date was recorded on the card, record YES in Q. 510A. Then, go back to Q. 508A, record '66' in the DAY column next to the vaccine received, and leave the month and year blank. In Q. 510A, only record YES if the respondent lists one (or more than one) of the vaccinations that are listed in Q. 508A, but are not recorded on the card as having been given.

The mother may tell you that the child did not receive any vaccinations other than those recorded on the card. In this case, circle '2' for NO in Q. 510A. At the end of this question, skip to Q. 525A no matter what answer was recorded.

#### Q. 511A: EVER HAD A VACCINATION (BUT NO HEALTH CARD)

You will ask this question only if you did not see a vaccination (health) card or other document on which vaccination information was written for this child. In that case, all of the information about vaccination of children will be collected from the mother, based on her memory about those vaccinations.

#### Qs. 512A-524A: VACCINATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH NO CARD OR ANOTHER DOCUMENT

If you did not see a child's vaccination (health) card or another document on which vaccination information for the child was recorded and the respondent tells you that the child did receive at least one vaccination, you will ask about whether the child received each of the following vaccinations: [BCG, hepatitis B (birth dose), polio, pentavalent, pneumococcal, rotavirus, and measles].

Ask Qs. 512A-524A, following the appropriate skip patterns. Because there are many types of vaccines, we specify how each one is given so the mother will know which vaccine we are asking about. Read the whole sentence before accepting the woman's response.

Q. 512A asks about whether the child has ever received a BCG vaccination that protects against tuberculosis.

Q. 513A asks about whether the child received a birth dose of hepatitis B vaccine. A hepatitis B vaccination must be given within 24 hours after birth to be effective. If the respondent reports that her child received a dose of hepatitis B vaccine, but it was given more than 24 hours after birth, record NO in Q. 513A.

Notice that there are follow-up questions for the remaining vaccinations (polio, pentavalent, pneumococcal, rotavirus, and measles). For the polio vaccine, we ask whether the child received it, when the child first received it (country specific), and how many times the child received it. For all others, we ask whether the child received the specific vaccination and how many times.

#### **Q. 525A: RECENT CONSUMPTION OF MICRONUTRIENT POWDER, THERAPEUTIC FOOD, OR SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD**

Q. 525A asks if the child received micronutrient powder, therapeutic food, or supplemental food in the last 7 days (preceding week).

It is well documented that vitamin and mineral deficiencies (such as vitamin A deficiency and anemia) frequently occur simultaneously. Therefore, fortification of foods with multiple micronutrient powders is now strongly recommended.

Children who fall under the cut-off for severe acute malnutrition need to receive an adapted diet that allows them to regain a normal nutritional status. [Plumpy'Nut® and PLUMPY DOZ] are examples of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic and Supplemental Food that are specifically formulated for the nutritional rehabilitation of severely acute malnourished children. In Q. 525A, we are interested in measuring the consumption of these therapeutic foods.

Read out each item and circle the answer given for each one. Be sure to circle a code for each item and do not leave any blanks.

#### **Section 5B: CHILD IMMUNIZATION (NEXT-TO-LAST BIRTH)**

After completing Section 5A, proceed to Section 5B to collect vaccination information on the next-to-last birth. If there were no more births in [2012-2015], skip to Q. 601. If there are more than two births in [2012-2015], you will need to use the continuation questionnaire that you prepared earlier. Write SEE CONTINUATION SHEET at the top of Section 5B. Check the cover page to make sure that you have the correct continuation questionnaire. Go to Section 5A in the continuation questionnaire. Change the title of the new Section 5A from LAST BIRTH to THIRD-FROM-LAST BIRTH', and record the name, birth history number, and survival status of the additional birth.

#### **G. Section 6. Child Health and Nutrition**

Similar to Section 5, Section 6 is focused on living children. Its layout and birth reference period, however, are similar to Section 4 in that Section 6 has columns for the last birth and next-to-last birth, and that it is focused on births that have occurred in [2010-2015].