
Subject: Definition of ARI symptoms

Posted by [Ezusha](#) on Wed, 09 May 2018 18:40:55 GMT

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am planning to study the prevalence of symptoms of Acute Respiratory (ARI) from 2016 DHS data for Ethiopia. Unfortunately, I got a problem while the prevalence from the Children's Record (KD) obtained accessed on April 24, 2018. This is because there are different definitions of symptoms of ARI and none of them produced similar results to the prevalence reported in the final report, which was 691 (6.6%).

Annotation of the final report defines Symptoms of ARI include cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing that is chest-related and/or by difficult breathing that is chest-related. Using this definition, though the exact definition could not be computed using the available variables, I used the code: `h31 ==2 & (h31b==1 | h31c==1 | h31c==3)` and the result was 796. This is higher than the number reported on the final report (Page 177).

On Guide to DHS statistics (Sep 2006, Page 112), the numerator is described as Number of children ill with a cough accompanied by short, rapid breathing at any time during the two weeks preceding the interview. I used this code 'ari=1 if h31 == 2 & h31b==1' and the results were identical with the above code.

When I search on the DHS forum for further explanations I found out that the outcome variable is (Symptoms of ARI) is computed using the following code: `ari=1 if h31b==1&(h31c==1 | h31c==3)`. Nevertheless, the result was 473, which is much less than the reported on the final report. I have recorded 'ari' into missing for `b5=0` (not alive), which only affected the denominator. So would anyone tell me which variables and coding should I use and what can I do if the results are still inconsistent with the final report.
