

Malachi,

For Question 1:

Restrict to BIDX == 1. You can confirm that BIDX == 1 is the most recent birth by tabulating the birth order and birth index variables.

```
. tab bord bidx if v201==5
```

```
.....birth.|
.....order.|.....birth.column.number
.....number.|.....1.....2.....3.....4.|... ..Total
-----+-----+-----
.....2.|.....0.....0.....0.....3.|... ..3.
.....3.|.....0.....0.....45.....0.|... ..45.
.....4.|.....0.....184.....0.....0.|... ..184.
.....5.|.....358.....0.....0.....0.|... ..358.
-----+-----+-----
.....Total.|.....358.....184.....45.....3.|... ..590
```

Here you see that among women with 5 kids, the kids that are birth order=5 (youngest kid) has birth column number (bidx) equal to 1 (the Recode Manual also states that BIDX is reversely coded from BORD).

For Question 2:

From the DHS5 Recode Manual:

Quote:

Age at death of the child as reported in the questionnaire. The first digit of the age at death gives the units in which it was reported: 1 - Days, 2 - Months, 3 - Years, 9 - Special responses. The last two digits give the age at death in those units. Age at death is usually reported in days if it was less than one month, in months if it was less than two years and otherwise in years. If the last two digits contain a value greater than 90 then this is a special response. For example, 298 means the age at death was a number of months, and the exact number was unknown, but lies between 1 and 23 months.

BASE: Dead children (B5 = 0).

Link here: [http://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode5DHS\\_23August 2012.pdf](http://www.dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/DHSG4/Recode5DHS_23August 2012.pdf)

Based on this, for children who died before their first birthday, you will most likely want to restrict to those with b6<300. Note, in the 08/09 child recode dataset, it looks like 167 children with bidx==1 are dead.

For Question 3:

I think these questions are only asked of the most recent birth, so if you restrict to bidx==1, you

should be all set. You can confirm with by checking the birth column number of those for whom m1 (tetanus injection before birth). Note, the ANC vbls are typically only asked of the most recent birth, so for older children, you can expect them to be missing. For example:

. tab bidx if m1==.

.....birth.	.....column.	.....number.	.....Freq.....	Percent.....	Cum.
-----+-----					
.....2.	.....1,673.....	83.78.....	83.78		
.....3.	.....302.....	15.12.....	98.90		
.....4.	.....18.....	0.90.....	99.80		
.....5.	.....3.....	0.15.....	99.95		
.....6.	.....1.....	0.05.....	100.00		
-----+-----					
.....Total.	.....1,997.....	100.00			

As you can see, the missing values are all birth index >1.

hth,  
RHS