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Subject: Re: Coverage of Nutritional Interventions during Antenatal Care (ANC)

Posted by [gwg](#) on Sat, 16 Mar 2019 02:29:17 GMT

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I support the recommendation for including the 4 questions proposed by DataDENT, and using the recall period of 2 years to minimize respondent burden.

Data on coverage of nutrition-specific interventions that aim to improve pregnancy and neonatal outcomes are virtually unavailable (except for delivery and intake of iron and folic acid supplements during pregnancy). Thus, including all the proposed questions would be useful for designing and evaluating maternal health and nutrition programs. This has been my observation as a current doctoral candidate at Cornell and a nutritionist working closely with public health programs on maternal and child nutrition in S. Asia.

On #2 and #3: Since the DHS "Supplemental Module on Maternal Health Care" already asks about weight measured during (at least once) ANC visit, retaining this question with the proposed modification of "at least two ANC visits" does not seem burdensome. In fact, when we know little about coverage of nutrition-specific interventions that target pregnant women, it would be useful to assess prevalence of weight monitoring during pregnancy with question 2, and then assess promotion of weight gain during pregnancy with question 3.

On #4: To assess whether cash/food assistance was received in relation to pregnancy, I propose a small change: 'Received food or cash assistance during pregnancy from government, religious institution or NGO program "after ANC registration"'

OR 'Received food or cash assistance during pregnancy from government, religious institution or NGO program"upon identification of pregnancy"'

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