
Subject: Re: SMART Methodology

Posted by [Jana_S](#) on Tue, 23 Jul 2019 14:02:07 GMT

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Hello,

I am planning to analyze anthropometric data including mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) in children. Using the search engine on the DHS website, 21 household surveys should include MUAC as a variable, but unfortunately most of these surveys only contain data for MUAC in women (usually variable "v436"), while data are frequently missing for children (usually variable "hw20").

Furthermore, some surveys use a variable that is not defined in the Recode Manual.

More specifically, the Burundi 2016-17 survey (DHS VII) has a variable called "SHB107A, brachial perimeter" which contains data that seem to match children's data. However, I couldn't find a clear definition in the recode manual or final report, and wonder whether it would be ok to assume them to be children's data or not.

Similarly, in the Lesotho 2014 survey (DHS VII), the final report states that MUAC was measured in children. However, I cannot find any plausible variable in the datasets (neither the household member recode nor the children's recode). There is a variable called "S102D, arm circumference" which is not defined in the recode manual, but this one seems to contain values that are rather from adults than from children.

If anyone has encountered similar problems: how did you deal with them? Is there any official document other than the recode manuals/maps and the final reports where I might find definitions for the variables?

I very much appreciate any help,

Jana
