
Subject: Re: Creating Time Variable For Survival Analysis & Missing(Dots) Cells
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Wed, 07 Oct 2020 12:10:13 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The variables b6 and b7 are Not Applicable if b5=1, that is, if the child is alive at the time of the survey. They are not "missing". If you want a binary variable for a neonatal death, the easiest thing is to do something like this:

```
gen ndeath=0  
replace ndeath=1 if b7==0
```

Sometimes you do need to use b6, rather than b7, for example to identify early or late neonatal deaths. The important point, however, is that when b6 and b7 are NA, the child is alive and your outcome would be coded 0.
