

Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Fred Arnold:

1. The field teams were not assigned completely randomly to the sample households. The supervisor on each team assigned interviewers and health investigators to sample households. Although in some cases they were assigned randomly, they also took into account such factors as the experience and ability of the field workers, the availability of the fieldworkers and the location of the households.

2. The interviewer numbers are not unique throughout the whole country. In NFHS-4 there were 14 field agencies that were assigned to one or more states and union territories. The interviewer numbers are unique within an assigned state or union territory, so to get a unique number throughout the country, you need to combine the state or union territory number with the interviewer number. The only problem you may have is in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Each of those states were split into regions for implementation of the fieldwork (three regions in Uttar Pradesh and two regions in Madhya Pradesh). Those regions were assigned to different field agencies, so the interviewer numbers may be unique within each region, but not for the state as a whole.

3. The blood pressure measurements and all of the other biomarker measurements in each household were assigned to one of the two health investigators on the team.