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Subject: Re: Hysterectomy vs menopause data

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 03 Dec 2024 13:50:33 GMT

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Quote:Latest Question: I have been using data from 10 sub-Saharan countries on cervical cancer screening (2020-2024), and I need to exclude women with history of hysterectomy. However, this variable is jointly categorized with "menopausal". The reason I need assistance for it is that history of hysterectomy is an exclusion criterion for cervical cancer screening, while menopause is not. Is there a variable to help separate the two categories? I checked with all the variable codes I could identify, but I have not been successful.

Following is a response from Senior DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

I don't believe there have been any DHS surveys that ask the woman specifically whether she has had a hysterectomy. For example, I looked at the IR file for the Ghana 2022 survey. There is a variable, v3a08d, with the label "reason not using: menopausal/hysterectomy". The only possible responses are yes/no.

This question in the Ghana survey is not asked of all women. It is NA for about 82% of women. Only 132 (unweighted) women in the Ghana survey respond "yes" and probably most of them are menopausal rather than having had a hysterectomy.

To be absolutely sure that there are no other questions related to hysterectomy, I recommend that you look at the pdf version of the final report on this or other surveys and search the questionnaire in the appendix for "hysterectomy".