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Subject: definition of "valid dates" for vaccination coverage

Posted by [rtperry](#) on Fri, 08 May 2015 13:15:00 GMT

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I have a question about the definition of an indicator appearing in many reports and the Stat Compiler that is not mentioned in the various DHS manuals on datasets, indicators, recoding, etc. I am concerned about the proportion of children who are immunized too early with certain vaccinations. In country DHS reports one often sees in the table "Vaccination by source of information" the line "valid dates". This indicator is also available through the Stat Compiler. I would be grateful for your help in clarifying the definition of this indicator. It could either refer to the validity of the date itself or to the validity of the vaccination.

Validity of date: a vaccination card with "valid" dates, that is dates with year / month / date information that corresponds to a valid date (for example, a date before the child's birthday or a date of Feb 31 would not be a valid date).

Validity of vaccination: a vaccination given on a date that makes the vaccination "valid", such as before 6 weeks of age for DTP1 or before 9m of age for measles vaccine.

Thanks for your help with this question!

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