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Subject: Re: Pregnancy duration

Posted by [Trevor-DHS](#) on Tue, 05 Apr 2016 18:00:55 GMT

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Here is a simple set of code for getting the duration of pregnancy for each birth in the calendar (with caveats noted below). This uses the IR file:

```
local callen = 80
* create separate variables for every month
forvalues i = 1/`callen' {
  gen vcal1_`i' = substr(vcal_1,`i',1)
  * Calculate duration of pregnancy if there is a birth in this month
  gen vcalp_`i' = indexnot(substr(vcal_1,`i'+1,`callen'-`i'),"P") if substr(vcal_1,`i',1) == "B"
  * Note that cases with duration 0 are truncated cases where we do not know the length of the
  pregnancy
}

* reshape the data file into variables for each month
reshape long vcal1_ vcalp_, i(caseid) j(i)

lab var vcalp_ "Duration of pregnancy"
lab def vcalp 0 "Unknown duration"
lab val vcalp_ vcalp

* Keep only the births
keep if vcal1_ == "B"

* CMC date of birth
gen cmc=v017+80-i
```

You would need to match this up with the births in the birth history, which you can do using the CMC date of birth.

Two issues, though:

- 1) This only gets the duration of pregnancy for births and their pregnancy that are completely within the calendar. Any pregnancy starting before the calendar will not have a duration.
- 2) I would not trust the duration of pregnancy from the calendar calculated this way. The calendar was not designed to collect accurate duration of pregnancy. It can only be calculated in months this way and is likely to be reported as 9 months in most cases.