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Subject: Re: Contraception discontinuation  
Posted by [Sarah B](#) on Fri, 13 May 2016 09:04:50 GMT  
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Hi Anu,

Most contraceptive discontinuation rates are calculated for specific methods, so sterilization is not an issue. When all methods are combined, though, episodes of sterilization that began during the window of observation are included in the denominator, and in the numerator in the very rare case of discontinuation.

As explained in the Guttmacher report, episodes of use that began prior to the window of observation are excluded from analysis, regardless of the method used, because we do not have a start date/duration for the episode.

I haven't gone through your code in detail, but noticed one issue below that will make your #s not match the results in the DHS final report. Your window of observation is set for the past 5 years prior to interview, i.e. months 0-59 prior to interview. DHS (and the Guttmacher report referenced below) censors the 3 months prior to interview because women may not recognize they are pregnant in the first 0-2 months of pregnancy. To avoid underestimation of contraceptive failure due to unrecognized pregnancies, we use months 3-62 prior to survey as the window of observation. So I think you want:

```
gen callen = v018 + 3 + 59  
gen begin = v018 + 3
```

Cheers,  
Sarah

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