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Subject: truncated history for non-live births vs calendar  
Posted by [chr8850](#) on Wed, 15 Dec 2021 16:00:33 GMT  
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Hi there

I have a question about the surveys that include a short truncated history on non-live births in the women's questionnaire as well as a calendar. Which data are used for estimating stillbirths and perinatal mortality? And is there code available for using the data from the truncated history rather than the calendar data?

Thank you!

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Subject: Re: truncated history for non-live births vs calendar  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 17 Dec 2021 13:01:38 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

By a truncated history, I suppose you are referring to a question about whether the woman ever had a stillbirth, such as Q237 in the Tanzania 2015-16 survey. When there is a calendar, a stillbirth is identified with a string of 6 or more P's followed by a T (P=pregnant, T=non-live birth termination). Yes, the calendar and a truncated history (e.g. a date given in response to Q237) would be checked for consistency. However, the calculation of stillbirths and perinatal mortality uses the calendar. If the response to Q237 did not match with the calendar, the calendar would be given priority.

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Subject: Re: truncated history for non-live births vs calendar  
Posted by [chr8850](#) on Fri, 17 Dec 2021 13:09:10 GMT  
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Dear Tom/Bridgette

Thanks for your reply. In the Tanzania 2015-16 DHS there are additional questions - Q233-235 about any non-live births - this was the truncated history i was referring to (snapshot attached)

Best

Aliki

File Attachments

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1) [Screen Shot 2021-12-17 at 14.06.15.png](#), downloaded 183 times

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Subject: Re: truncated history for non-live births vs calendar  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 21 Dec 2021 00:21:55 GMT  
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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

Thanks for the clarification. What you are calling a truncated history is a device to get more complete reporting of pregnancy terminations in the calendar. During data processing, the results from those questions go into the calendar. Perinatal mortality is always calculated from the calendar, but it should be more complete or accurate when these probing questions have been included. The truncated history is not separate from the calendar--it is integrated with the calendar.

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