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Subject: Water-borne diseases in DHS  
Posted by [Ckaghoma](#) on Sun, 16 Nov 2014 13:19:53 GMT  
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Dear all

Can someone help with indications on whether there is (and where to find) the bulk of water-borne diseases in the DHS? Which ones are there? and in which module to find them?

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Subject: Re: Water-borne diseases in DHS  
Posted by [Liz-DHS](#) on Tue, 18 Nov 2014 18:01:47 GMT  
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Dear User,

I checked with one of our experts, Dr. Joanna Lowell:

Guinea Worm and Schistosomiasis are waterborne

Any waterborne disease questions other than diarrhea would be country-specific in our surveys. I did a quick check and found that in the Nigeria DHS 2008 survey they did ask questions in the household regarding tropical diseases.

Onchocerciasis

QH34 In the last 12 months has (NAME) taken any drug for River Blindness [LOCAL TERM], a disease that causes itchy skin, lumps in the skin and blindness.

Lymphatic Filariasis

QH35 In the last 12 months has (NAME) taken any drug for elephantitis [LOCAL TERM], which causes swelling in the arms and legs?

Guinea Worm

QH36 In the last 12 months have you ever seen a worm emerging from a skin lesion (boil or blister) on (NAME)? This disease is called Guinea Worm.

Schistosomiasis

QH37 In the last 12 months has (NAME) taken any drug for bilharzia [LOCAL TERM], which causes blood in the urine.

Out of these these Guinea Worm and Schistosomiasis are waterborne.

In the Peru Continuous surveys QH109 they tested drinking water looking for levels of bacteria. In Liberia DHS 2013 some water samples were tested but that was separate from the DHS and is not part of the final report.

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Subject: Re: Water-borne diseases in DHS  
Posted by [Ckaghoma](#) on Sun, 30 Nov 2014 08:17:01 GMT  
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Dear Liz

Many thanks for all the details. The variables seem not to be part of DHS for D.R. Congo but at least I know they are available in some other countries.

Thanks once more.

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Subject: Re: Water-borne diseases in DHS  
Posted by [kingx025](#) on Sun, 22 Apr 2018 00:26:41 GMT  
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If you are interested in Congo Democratic Republic specifically, then perhaps the best you can do is look at the variable about recent diarrheal disease (H11) in children under 5. FYI, the DHS samples for Congo Democratic Republic for 2007 and 2013 are now part of the IPUMS-DHS database (available at [idhsdata.org](http://idhsdata.org)). You might want to visit the IPUMS-DHS website, select samples for just Congo Democratic Republic (using the Select Samples option), see what variables are available for those 2 samples, and, if you like, make a customized datafile with the variables and samples needed for your research project, after you log in with your DHS user email and password.

Miriam King

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