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Subject: Creating health care facility catchment areas  
Posted by [gmanthalu](#) on Wed, 15 Jul 2015 13:10:13 GMT  
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I linked 2010 and 2004 Malawi DHS data and health care facility geographical data to allocate respondents in the two DHS's to catchment areas of Government and mission health care facilities, whichever was closest. I used GPS coordinates for all Government and mission health care facilities in Malawi collected by the Ministry of Health and of course Malawi DHS 2010 and 2004 GPS coordinates. My objective was to evaluate whether pregnant women living in catchment areas of mission health care facilities that adopted user fee exemption were using maternal health care more than pregnant women living in catchment areas of mission health care facilities that did not adopt user fee exemption. My concern though was and has always been the displacement of DHS GPS locations i.e. a cluster being displaced closer to a health care facility it is far away from in reality. From my reading of DHS Spatial Analysis Report 10 and related documents, this kind of analysis should not be done at all. Is this the correct understanding? If so what would you recommend I do in order to achieve allocation of respondents to health care facility catchment areas?

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