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Subject: Questions on Discontinuation of contraception & the reasons for it  
Posted by [DHS user](#) on Tue, 21 Jan 2020 14:21:45 GMT

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My question is regarding the questions about discontinuation of contraception and the reasons for this, as illustrated in fx. this DHS: <https://dhsprogram.com/pubs/pdf/FR321/FR321.pdf>

One of the reasons for discontinuation is 'side effects/health concerns' and I'm trying to understand why these two different things are pooled together into ONE code?

If I need to use the DHS on fx. Tanzania to investigate reasons for discontinuation, how can I differ between experienced side effects or concerns about it? Or, is it even possible to differ?

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Subject: Re: Questions on Discontinuation of contraception & the reasons for it  
Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Tue, 21 Jan 2020 14:23:47 GMT

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Following is a response from Senior DHS Specialist, Kerry MacQuarrie:

As you may notice from the questionnaire in the appendix of the 2015-16 Tanzania DHS Final Report (specifically p.565), the DHS does not distinguish between side effects/health concerns, what those side effects or concerns may be, or whether it is experience or fear of side effects/health concerns that is the reason for discontinuation. This is standard in DHS-7 surveys.

There is one change in the standard DHS-8 questionnaire that will apply to future surveys: "changes in menstrual bleeding" will be separated out from "other side effects/health concerns".