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Subject: Full Birth History or Verbal Autopsy

Posted by [shujaat.smc@gmail.com](mailto:shujaat.smc@gmail.com) on Fri, 23 Oct 2020 09:52:33 GMT

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Dear DHS Representative,

I am working on the BR file (2017-18 PDHS) for determining the predictors of neonatal mortality in Pakistan.

While going through the published literature on the DHS data for neonatal mortality some of the authors use that the information on the neonatal or even the child mortality was collected through verbal autopsy (Part in women questionnaire) and some authors plus the literature of the institute on the population health sciences states for estimating the neonatal or child mortality rate the DHS program use the full birth history.

I made the search for "verbal autopsy" on the final PDHS report 2017-18 but didn't find any match.

Please clarify What a researcher should mention in their paper or thesis doc, the manner in which the information is collected on the neonatal mortality; is it "Full Birth History" Or "Verbal autopsy" in the women questionnaire tool.

Waiting for your kind and elaborate reply.

Best Regards

Dr. Hussain

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Subject: Re: Full Birth History or Verbal Autopsy

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 23 Oct 2020 12:45:36 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS Research & Data Analysis Director, Tom Pullum:

The under-five mortality rates for the Pakistan 2017-18 DHS are based entirely on the birth history. Verbal autopsies were not included in this survey. We have just confirmed this with the survey manager, Anjushree Pradhan. We would be interested to learn of the source of this misinformation and would be grateful if you could tell us where you saw it.

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Subject: Re: Full Birth History or Verbal Autopsy

Posted by [shujaat.smc@gmail.com](mailto:shujaat.smc@gmail.com) on Sat, 24 Oct 2020 03:42:55 GMT

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Dear Tom Pullum,

Thanks for your reply.

The research paper which I am following is on the topic of neonatal mortality in Pakistan but the author has used Data from PDHS 2006-7. I have cross-checked with PDHS report of 2006-7 in which it is mentioned that verbal autopsy form was used.

I just have to check my collection of research papers published on the same topic using DHS data and will share it.

Best Regards

Dr. Hussain

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