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Subject: Time Spent at Place of Delivery m61

Posted by [shujaat.smc@gmail.com](mailto:shujaat.smc@gmail.com) on Fri, 13 Nov 2020 18:06:41 GMT

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Dear DHS Representative,

I want to use variable m61 (time spent at the place of delivery) for assessing the determinant of neonatal mortality. (Pakistan DHS 2017-18 BR-file).

On tabulating the m61 I found 245 women were discharged on hour=0 (category code 100), this number is large making me curious to look where these women got delivery, it was shocking to see that most of these women had their delivery in a government facility & private facility only few responded for Basic health care unit, community center & only one for the rural health center.

Kindly explain, getting discharge or Leave against medical advice (LAMA) for a woman who had delivered by NVD in 60 mins is extremely challenging even for a healthier woman having all healthcare facility available, Secondly, if these early discharges/LAMA are from a healthcare facility either government or private this need to be addressed in my thesis write up & manuscript with "Bold & Strong Words". But should I do this keeping in mind that data collectors have just recorded the response of an ever-married woman without getting surprised at the time of interview that the respondent was discharged from the healthcare facility in an extremely short time? Did Data collectors check respondent home medical records or it was taken smoothly without probing.

If m61 is purely a recall-based variable what do you suggest should I use m61 in my analysis.

Best Regards

Dr.Hussain

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Subject: Re: Time Spent at Place of Delivery m61

Posted by [Bridgette-DHS](#) on Fri, 20 Nov 2020 17:56:51 GMT

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

The very short lengths of time spent at the facility where the birth took place (especially 0 or 1 hours) are indeed questionable. It is possible that they are coding errors and were intended to be 0 or 1 days. However, we can't be sure. I recommend that you form categories in which day 0 is broken down into two or three intervals. The first interval could be, for example, 0-5 (completed) hours. You can also check the questionnaire and see whether the wording and categories given there are helpful.

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