Africa Centre Demographic Information System (ACDIS)

Verbal Autopsy Dataset Documentation

Change History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colin Newell and</td>
<td>14 May 2009</td>
<td>Original</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobus Herbst</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dataset name</th>
<th>VAQuestionnaire Ch2 – Injuries, Tetanus and Rabies</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Description</td>
<td>As in many developing and rural areas of the world, many people die outside of hospitals and clinics, and even when they do die in a hospital setting the precise cause of death is often not known to relatives. The verbal autopsy (VA) methodology aims to establish retrospectively through interviews by nurses with the family, preferably the caregiver, of the deceased the cause of death. After a review of the VA interviews, a panel of 2 or 3 physicians will assign a cause of death independently from each other. ICD 10 is used to code causes of death. The VA questionnaire is age specific and contains an open section called narrative, a checklist of major signs and symptoms, and a structured section eliciting more details on signs and symptoms reported. The timing of a VA interview with the family/caregivers of the deceased is a delicate issue, but normally it occurs between 4 months and a year after the death.</td>
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Rows/Units of analysis | One row per death. |
Unique identifier(s)   | IntlId |
Approx. number of rows | 11,900 |

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Section 1: Unintentional and intentional injuries and accidents.

1. Did she sustain any injury which lead to her death? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐] Go to q.16
   (DK ☐) Go to q.16

2. Was the injury intentional or accidental? Intentional ☐ NA ☐ DK ☐
   Accidental ☐ DK ☐

3. How long after the injury did she die? [□ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Months ☐ NA ☐ DK ☐]

4. Where did she die? [□ In the hospital ☐ Elsewhere ☐]
   [□ In the ambulance ☐ At home ☐ NA ☐]

5. Did she have any ongoing chronic illness or was she sick in the month before the accident or the injury? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐]

6. Was the injury self inflicted? [Yes ☐ No ☐] Go to q.10
   [☐ Go to q.10 ☐]

7. Did she commit suicide? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐]

8. How did she commit suicide? [Hanging ☐ Burns ☐ NA ☐]
   [Poking ☐ Gunshot ☐ Other ☐]

9. If other, specify [☐ NA ☐]

10. What kind of injury was it? [Traffic Accident ☐ Go to q.16 ☐ Drowning ☐ Go to q.16 ☐]
    [Fire Accident ☐ Fall ☐ Poisoning ☐ Go to q.12 ☐]
    [Assault ☐ Go to q.13 ☐ Burns ☐ End ☐]

11. If it was another type of injury, specify [☐ NA ☐]

12. Do you know the substance that caused the poisoning? [☐ NA ☐]

13. What type of assault was it? [Assault ☐ Go to q.13 ☐]
    [Strangulation ☐ Stabbed ☐ Other ☐]

14. Specify the instrument of the assault [☐ NA ☐]

15. What animal inflicted the bite? [☐ NA ☐]

16. If it was a dog or mammal bite, [☐ NA ☐] Go to section 3

17. If she was attacked by a dog or mammal, [☐ NA ☐]

18. If she was attacked by a dog or mammal, [☐ NA ☐]

19. What type of accident was it? [Car ☐ Go to q.10 ☐]
    [Taxi ☐ Private Car ☐ NA ☐]
    [Bus ☐ Train ☐ NA ☐]

20. Describe what happened [☐ NA ☐]

Section 2: Animal bite or stiffness of the body or problems swallowing or problems to open mouth

1. Did she become unconscious? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐]
   (DK ☐) Go to q.4

2. How did the change in level of consciousness start? Suddenly ☐ NA ☐
   Slowly over more than 1 day ☐ DK ☐

3. For how long was she unconscious? [□ Hours ☐ Days ☐]

4. Did she have any fear of drinking water? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐]

5. Did she have any problems swallowing? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐]

6. Did she have problems to open her mouth? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐]

7. Was there any stiffness of the body before she died? [Yes ☐ No ☐]
   (Go to q.5 ☐)

8. How long did the stiffness of the body last? [□ Hours ☐ Days ☐ Months ☐ NA ☐ DK ☐]

9. Did she have any problems breathing? [Yes ☐ No ☐] Go to q.11
   (DK ☐) Go to q.11

10. For how long did she have problems with breathing? [□ Hours ☐ Days ☐ NA ☐]

11. Was she diagnosed in the hospital as suffering from rabies or tetanus? [Yes, from rabies ☐ No ☐]
    [Yes, from tetanus ☐ DK ☐]

12. Did she have fever? [Yes ☐ No ☐ DK ☐]

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Rabies: Dog bite or bite of wild animal (E)
and (un)consciousness or difficulty in swallowing or stiffness of the body (E)
Tetanus: Stiffness of body <14 days + difficulty breathing; 14 days + absence of sudden onset of unconsciousness (E)
and (difficulty to open mouth or fever or recent injury)(E)