Appendix 5: Summary of NSFG Questionnaire Changes since 2013-2015

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Overview

This document summarizes changes to the NSFG questionnaires for the 2015-2017 survey. The reference point for these changes is the 2013-2015 NSFG.

For more detail on the precise wording or routing associated with these questionnaire changes made for 2015-2017, please see the “Webdoc” interactive, online codebooks or the questionnaires accessible on the NSFG webpage.

- In the Webdoc codebooks, for which there is a direct link on the NSFG webpage, there is a separate entry for each variable included on the public use files. For more information on the specific elements in these codebook entries, see “Description of Codebooks” in the User’s Guide, Part 1.

- The questionnaires are provided in either a “CAPI-lite” or “CRQ” format on the NSFG webpage. CAPI stands for “computer-assisted personal interview,” and CRQ stands for “CAPI Reference Questionnaire.” The CRQ is the most fully specified version of the questionnaires as programmed using the Blaise survey software (see http://www.blaise.com/), including all question wording variants and routing details, as well as the definitions for internally computed (“Blaise-computed”) variables. The “CAPI-lite” is an abridged version of the CRQ that still conveys the basic questionnaire content, wording, and routing. For more information on these questionnaire formats, see “Description of Questionnaires” in the User’s Guide, Part 1.

While the majority of the 2015-2017 questionnaires remains the same as the 2013-2015 questionnaires, changes were made to respond to emerging data needs and to reduce respondent burden related to question complexity. At the same time, attention was paid to maintaining a consistent time series on core NSFG items, staying within the average interview lengths approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) (of 80 minutes for females and 60 minutes for males), and controlling fieldwork and instrument testing costs associated with questionnaire revisions.
Changes affecting both male & female questionnaires

- Revised categories on show cards 3a and 3b used in the household roster. Category 1 revised to say “husband/spouse” and “wife/spouse.” Category 2 revised to say “male unmarried partner” and “female unmarried partner.”

- Moved marital and cohabiting status questions after the household roster (now in series AD).

- Added questions about location of formal instruction about methods of birth control (female CF-5a/male BA-8a SEDBCLC) and waiting until marriage to have sex (female CF-20a/male BA23a SEDABLC).

- Modified list and ordering of types of cancers to be consistent with the National Health Interview Survey (female HD-17b/male IC-7b CANCTYPE).


- Removed the health insurance variable series IA-4/IA-6 NOWCOVER[x] and added IA-1/IA-3 CURRCOV. With some modification, the COVERHOW[x] series now captures current health insurance coverage previously captured by NOWCOVER[x].

- Added question on whether insurance was obtained through healthcare.gov/marketplace (female IA_4/male IA-6 INS_EXCH) and whether R pays a premium for his/her health plan (female IA-5/male IA-7 INS_PREM).

- Deleted various attitude items from female IH and II series and male JG and JH series (STAYTOG, SXOK18, SXOK16, CHUNLESS, GAYADOPT, OKCOHAB, MARRFAIL, CHCOHAB, PRVNTDIV, LESSPLSR, EMBARRAS). Question wording for CHSUPPOR (female IH-2/male JG-2) was changed to eliminate the word “young” so that it reads: "It is okay for an unmarried woman to have and raise a child."

- Added questions on being weighed by a doctor or other medical care provider in the past 12 months in female JA series and male KA series (JA-6a/KA-6a DRWEIGH, JA-6b/KA-6b TELLWGHT, JA-6c/KA-6c WGHTSCRN).

- Added questions about housing insecurity in the past 12 months in female JC series and male KB series (JC-0a/KB-1a NOBEDYR) and (JC-0b/KB-1b STAYREL).

- Added question on whether a doctor or other medical care provider provided smoking or tobacco cessation help in the past 12 months (female JC-3a/male KC-0a4 SMKSTOP).
• Added question on the type of relationship R had with their first same-sex partner at time they first had sex with them (female JG-4a FSAMEREL/male KJ-3a MSAMEREL).

• Implemented a 50-50 split study of 2 versions of the sexual orientation question asked in the female JH series and the male KK series. A random half sample of respondents were asked sexual orientation using question wording and response categories unchanged from previous NSFG years (ORIENT_A) and the other half-sample were asked using question wording and response categories from the National Health Interview Survey (ORIENT_B).

• Deleted questions in the female JI series and the male KL series related to receipt of income from specified sources (JI-1a through JI1k/KL-1a through KL-1k WAGE, SELFINC, SOCSEC, DISABIL, RETIRE, SSI, UNEMP, CHLDSUPP, INTEREST, DIVIDEND, OTHINC).

**Changes affecting only the female questionnaire**

**Section B**

• Revised gestational length definition of pregnancies ending miscarriage or stillbirth used throughout the BC series. Specifically, the cut point was lowered from 24 weeks to 20 weeks for distinguishing miscarriages from stillbirths.

• Deleted questions in the BK series (current plans to adopt) asking about preferences for sex, race, age, disability, and sibship of the adopted child (BK-5 through BK-14).

**Section D**

• Added in-store clinics as a response category for variables DB-2 PLCFEMOP and DB-9 PLACOPMN that ask about place where sterilization operation was performed. While these are unlikely for sterilization operations, the response categories for place of service were standardized across the questionnaire.

• Deleted question DB-2a INPATIEN asking whether R’s tubal sterilization involved an overnight stay in the hospital.

**Section E**

• Standardized response categories for EA-13a ECWHERE and EB-4 PLACGOTF with other “place of service” variables.

• Revised response category labels to include yes and no for EA-13b ECWHEN.

• Added showcard reference to EA-15a EVIUDTYP and EA-21 TYPEIUD (EA-21).

• Added questions about timing of discontinuation of the pill (EA-17a WHENPILL), male condom (EA-18e WHENCOND), and IUD (EA-20e WHENIUD).

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• Deleted questions about timing and reasons for discontinuation of Depo-Provera (EA-19c WHENDEPO, EA-20 REASDEPO, EA-20b SP_REASDEPO, EA-20c SP_DIFFDEPO, EA-20d SP_SIDEDEPO).

• Added questions (EF-1b WYNOLSTP and EF-1c HPLSTP) about whether the respondent and her partner did not use a method of birth control at last sex because of wanting to become pregnant when last sex was not in the interview month.

• Added a question (EF-2b LPIUDTYP) about the type of IUD used at last sex with a recent partner.

• Revised wording of EH-1 WYNOTUSE (to accommodate addition of EF-1b, EF-1c)

• Added a question (EJ-3a YUSEIUD) about reasons for recent IUD use.

• Added new series of questions, EK series, about recent hormonal method use. Questions cover source, insurance use, and payment for methods (EK-1 CURBCPLC through EK-6 CURBCAMT), and method use choices related to cost concerns (EK-7 NOCOST1 and EK-8 NOCOST2).

Section F

• Expanded universe of FA-1g EMCON12 to be asked of all respondents. Those who said no to EA-11 MORNPIILL used to be skipped past FA-1g EMCON12.

• Added response category to FA-5 BC12PLCX (where received service) and other provider types to include in store health clinic.

• Deleted FB series (first family planning service ever).

• Added FA-5f BCCLARC asking if when R received counseling or information about birth control, the provider talked with her about contraceptive implant or IUD.

• Added questions asking about 3 specific topics the doctor may have asked R about in the past 12 months (FG-2 ASKSMOKE, FG-3 ASKPREG, FG-4 ASKFOLIC)

Section H

• Added a question (HD-18c CLINEXAM) about ever having a clinical breast exam.

• Replaced question about R’s assessment of a woman’s breast cancer risk due to family history of breast cancer (HD-20 FAMRISK) with 2 more specific items asking about R’s assessment of breast cancer risk if a woman’s mother had been diagnosed with breast cancer at age 70 or age 40 (HD-20a MOMRISK70 and HD-20b MOMRISK40).
• Deleted question about R’s assessment of breast cancer risk due to oral contraceptive use (HD-21 PILLRISK).

• Added a question (HD-22a BFEEDRISK) about R’s assessment of breast cancer risk due to breastfeeding.

• Deleted questions about R’s perceived likelihood of getting breast cancer (HD-23 CANCFUR) and her level of worry about breast cancer (HD-24 CANCWORRY).

Section I

• Added questions on active duty military service (ID-1 MILSVC, ID-2m/2y BEGMIL_M/Y, CMBEGINMIL, ID-3m/3y ENDMIL_M/Y, CMENDMIL). (MILSVC available on public-use file, others available in the NCHS RDC, see Appendix 7).

Section J

• Question added on having had an HPV test at any time in the past 5 years where the results were not normal (JH-9a ABNHPV).

Changes affecting only the male questionnaire

Section C

• Added questions on how much sooner than wanted did pregnancy occur for males, analogous to questions in female section E (CG-18a/b CWPSOONN/CWPSOONMY and CH-5a/b CWPCPSNN/CWPCPSNMY).

Section D

• Added questions on how much sooner than wanted did pregnancy occur for males, analogous to questions in female section E (DH-18a/b PXSOONN/PXSOONMY and DI-5a/b PXRSOONN/PXRSOONMY).

Section E

• Added questions on how much sooner than wanted did pregnancy occur for males, analogous to questions in female section E (ED-18a/b FWPSOONN/FWPSOONMY).

Section F

• Added questions on how much sooner than wanted did pregnancy occur for males, analogous to questions in female section E (FA-21a/b OBCSOONN/OBCSOONMY).
Section G

- Added question about relationship with focal child’s mother (GD-1 COPARENT).

Section I

- Added a question about R’s assessment of cancer risk due to alcohol consumption (IC-8 ALCORISK).

- Added question about smoking counseling, analogous to question asked in female section F (ID-13 ASKSMOKE).

- Deleted question about availability of treatment to avoid perinatal transmission of the HIV virus (IF-8 RETROVIR).

Section K

- Deleted question KB-1 SHELTER, based on replacement of 2 housing insecurity questions described on page 2.

- Added questions on cigarette smoking parallel to those asked in female section J (KC-0a1 SMK100, KC-0a2 AGESMK, KC-0a3 SMOKE12).

- Added questions on condom use experience (KE-3a COND1BRK and KE-3b COND1OFF), analogous to questions asked in female section E.

- Added question on whether R had any other sexual experience of any kind with another male (KH-4c MALESEX). Based on this question addition, question wording was revised to account for “any sexual experience” in KH-5 MALPRTAGE, KH-6 MALPRTHISP, KJ-0 INTROK15, KJ-3 SAMESEX1, and KJ-11 CNDLSMAL.

- Revised response categories for KJ-10 MSMSORT12.