



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS AND CENSUSES (INDEC) NATIONAL DIVISION OF
SOCIAL AND POPULATION STATISTICS DIVISION OF POPULATION STATISTICS
DISABILITY STATISTICS PROGRAM**

**RESULTS OF THE COGNITIVE TESTS FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF DISABILITY
IN ARGENTINA
FINAL REPORT**

June 30 2006

Introduction

Within the framework of the project being carried out by the United Nations' Washington Group on Disability Statistics (henceforth, WG) to generate internationally comparable measures related to the topic of disability, Argentina's National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (el Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos, henceforth INDEC) performed all the activities related to the Combined Cognitive and Field Test (henceforth, the Cognitive Test) for the measurement of disability, in accordance with the terms of reference put forth by the WG, between March and June of 2006.

Here we discuss the above mentioned terms of reference, the main methodological aspects of the Cognitive Test already implemented, the instructions provided to the interviewers and respondents, and the analytical conclusions for the Argentinean case. We also append to this report the questionnaire that was administered.

1. Established Terms of Reference

During the months of March, April, May and June of 2006, INDEC will conduct the proposed Cognitive Test for the measurement of disability developed by the WG.

In particular, INDEC will:

- develop the work plan
- send the work plan to the WG Secretariat for approval
- conduct a training program for the work group about the interviewing and supervision of the interviews
- Within the context of the cognitive test, INDEC:
 - Will test the whole of the WG proposed questions, including the additional questions as delivered on the protocol, in the format of a form, to a group of approximately 100 people, of different disabilities or without disabilities.
 - Will input the data in the provided format and send it to the WG Secretariat.
 - INDEC will send the following results by June 30, 2006:
 - ❖ The planned activities to conduct the test proposed by the WG for the measurement of disability
 - ❖ Progress in the analysis of the cognitive test noting how many people were interviewed
 - ❖ Collected data in the required format
 - ❖ The analysis of the experience as it relates to the Cognitive Test.

2. Data Collection Goals for Both the WG and INDEC – Argentina

Starting with the general and specific objectives of the Cognitive Test developed by the WG, INDEC selected those that it considers will contribute to an improved measurement of disability in the future round of the Population Census of 2010.

2.1 General Objective of the WG

To conduct a Cognitive Test related to measuring questions about disability to investigate if the respondents understand each question correctly, and if they are able to respond with accuracy.

2.2 Specific Objective of the WG

- To determine if the questions are being interpreted as predicted.
- To determine if the questions are being interpreted in a consistent manner across countries and sub-populations.

2.3 General Objective of INDEC – Argentina

To conduct a Cognitive Test related to measurement of the questions about disability to investigate if the respondents understand the questions correctly, and if they are able to respond with accuracy. All this will be done with the goal of contributing to improve the identification of persons with disabilities in the future Argentinean National Census of Populations, Households and Housing 2010 (Census 2010).

3. Translation of Questionnaires and Instructions

The questionnaire and instructions provided by the WG were translated from English to Spanish, as this last one is the official and majority language of the population of Argentina.

The translation was done by a specialist in socio-demographic analysis, with a background on translation from English. The questionnaire and the instructions were then reviewed and adapted by specialists in the measurement of disabilities with working command of English. In this way it was guaranteed that the translation fulfilled the requisites required and was efficient. The translation of the specific questions related to disability was done literally. Modifications were only incorporated to the questions related to the characterization socio-demographic of the population so as to make them comparable to the traditional modes of measurement used in the last population census of Argentina.

In order to be able to make the needed linguistic adjustments, the questionnaire was tested among the team members of the Disability Statistics Program of INDEC's Division of Population Statistics. This group of professionals was in charge of the implementation of the "*Encuesta Nacional de Personas con Discapacidad (2002-2003) – ENDI 2002-2003*" (the 2002-2003 National Survey of Persons with Disabilities) in Argentina. It should be mentioned that this group was composed of one person with disability and six without disabilities. The final version of the questionnaire was tested as well by interviewing three persons with disabilities.

4. Sample Selection

The Cognitive Test used a purposive sample, with quotas according to type of disability, age group, and gender. The final distribution can be found on Table 1. It is not a probabilistic sample due to the fact that the objective is not to produce statistical data that would allow us to make generalizations about the population as a whole, but to enable us to test the questions with the goal of exploring in depth specific concepts, processes and patterns of interpretation in particular.

A sample was selected of 102 (one hundred and two) persons, 71 (seventy one) with a disability and 31 (thirty one) without disabilities, who usually live in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. In addition, for the majority of people selected for the sample, an interview was conducted with a qualified informant.

5. Staffing

The interviewers in charge of administering the questionnaires were professionals who are on staff at the Disability Statistics Program at INDEC's Division of Population Statistics. They are university graduates in sociology and staff with graduate studies in demography. This team has been working on the measurement of disability since 1998.

The 102 (one hundred and ten) persons and their 79 (seventy nine)¹ corresponding qualified informants – 181 (one hundred and eighty one) persons in total- were interviewed by 8 (eight) interviewers between the ages of 25 and 62. Of these, 7 (seven) are women and 1 (one) is a man.

All the interviews were conducted in Spanish, the official and majority language of the population of Argentina.

¹It should be noted that 23 of the 102 interviews conducted did not have a proxy informant since they refused the interview.

6. Training

The Disability Statistics Program was responsible for the training of the staff in charge of conducting the interviews. The one-day training was spent analyzing the questions and the strategy to use during data collection.

The interviewers were provided:

1. information about what each question intends to capture,
2. definitions for the terms used in each question and in the introduction of the respondent to the context of the interview, and
3. a uniform approach to the questions.

7. Data Collection

Data collection took place in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and lasted approximately eight weeks.

The respondents were persons with and without disability, age 18 and older. With regard to persons with disability, individuals with a variety of disabilities were interviewed, of both genders and different age groups, 18 and older; their final distribution appears in Table 1. In addition, interviews were requested from persons with different degrees of disabilities and others with potentially “questionable” disabilities, as well as without disabilities. The goal was to test the validity of the questions to identify persons with disabilities according to their different degrees of impairment and, in particular, the questions’ ability to distinguish them (true positives) from those who do not have disabilities (that is, person without disabilities are not recorded as having them, i.e. false positives).

In each interview, the interviewer explained to the respondents the objectives and characteristics of the test, to then administer the questionnaire to the respondent and, subsequently, to a qualified proxy informant, who was asked about the health status of the respondent.

A majority of the interviewers were accompanied by a non-participant observer, whose role was to record any problems that took place in the course of the interview, as well as to detect the possible causes for the specific situation.

Respondents were recruited with the help of governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as foundations related to the topic of disability. Respondent characteristics regarding type of disability, gender, age, etc., were provided in advance by members of the organizations providing the sample, and were confirmed in the course of the interview.

Table 1. Quota Distribution of the Completed Interviews. Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. May 2006.

Type of Disability	Total	15-64 Year-Olds		65 + Years	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
Total	102	34	34	16	18
With disability	71	24	21	14	12
Visual	12	6	2	4	0
Auditory	10	2	1	4	3
Speech	2	0	1	0	1
Motor	31	10	9	5	7
Mental	14	6	7	1	0
Other	2	0	1	0	1
Without disability	31	10	13	2	6

8. Disability Questionnaire for the Respondent and Qualified Proxy Informant

See Appendix I, “Cognitive Test for the Measurement of Disability”, in PDF format.

The questionnaire followed the original questions prepared by the WG, although in some cases problems with skip instructions or missing response categories were detected, that would present problems in the interviews.

The only change incorporated was the operationalization of the variables for relationship, level of education, working status, occupation, household monthly income, and marital status, in order to make it consistent with the measurement approach used in the last national population census in Argentina, Census 2001.

9. Interviewer Instructions

Next we describe the instructions prepared and provided to interviewers, during the course of their training, according to the criteria of the WG:

This protocol should be administered like a traditional questionnaire: start at the beginning, go through each page to the end, and read each question along with the response options exactly as they appear. Check the box next to the response that is given by the respondent. The numbers appearing after each response are not meant to be read out loud to respondents. The numbers are codes that will be used after all of the interviews have been conducted to compile responses. Words appearing in italics, bold print or in shaded boxes are not meant to be read out loud to the respondent, since they are instructions to you--the interviewer. In a few places, you will be instructed to skip some questions depending on the respondent's answer to a previous question. Additionally, in each section there are a few questions that are asked of you and not of the respondent. You should take a few seconds to answer those questions as they appear in the questionnaire. They should not be read out loud to the respondent. To ensure a smooth interview, read through the questionnaire or (even better) conduct a practice interview with a friend or family member before conducting an interview with a "real" respondent. The questionnaire was designed to be easy to administer, so (with only a little preparation) you should find the interview process itself to be very simple and straight-forward.

The following outlines the various types of questions-- including interviewer instructions and tips for administering them-- that make up the cognitive testing protocol:

- **Core Questions:** These are the six disability questions to be tested by this cognitive interview. All of the other questions in this questionnaire are designed to examine how well these core questions perform. Therefore, it is imperative that you ask the core questions and the response categories exactly as they are written. You should repeat the questions and/or the answer categories, but do not try to help or assist the respondent if they are experiencing difficulty. That is, do not attempt to explain the question or help them figure out what their answer should be. It is important to learn how respondents are interpreting the question, regardless of whether or not their interpretation is correct. Additionally, it is important to discover the degree of difficulty that they experience without the help of an interviewer. If the respondent is unable to answer the question, this is important information we should learn.

- **Questions exclusively for the Interviewer:** These 3 questions appear in the shaded box immediately after the core question. They are to be answered by you, the interviewer, and are designed to capture basic information about the ease of administration for the core question, specifically, whether the question (or any part of the question) needed to be repeated, if the response categories worked appropriately, and if the respondent needed clarify their answer. To ensure accuracy, these questions must be answered immediately, when they appear in the questionnaire. Do not wait until the end of the interview.

For the first question exclusively for the interviewer (Did the respondent need you to repeat any part of the question?), check the option labeled “Yes” if the respondent asked you to repeat any part of the question—the question portion, the response options or the entire question. Also, check “Yes,” if (when administering the question) you saw that the respondent did not hear or understand the question so you had to repeat it.

For the second question exclusively for the interviewer (Did the respondent have any difficulty using the response options?), check the “Yes” option if the respondent did not answer using one of the provided response categories (for example, if they made up their own category or used other words) or if they experienced any other kind of difficulty with the response options.

For the third question exclusively for the interviewer (Did the respondent ask for clarification or qualify their answer?), check the box marked “Yes” if the respondent needed to provide additional information along with their answer or if they asked you to clarify some aspect of the question.

- **Control Questions to Ask the Respondent:**
- **First Control Question for the Respondent:** (Why did you answer that way?) These are open-ended control questions, qualitative, that appear directly after the questions for the interviewer. This is the first question asked of the respondent after they have answered the core question. As much as possible, record exactly what the respondent states in the available space. More than any other test question, this qualitative information will provide detailed information into how the respondent interpreted the core question and how their response was formulated.
- **Second Set of Control Questions for the Respondent:** The cognitive control questions are designed to capture how the respondent came up with their answer, specifically, what the respondent considered when answering. These questions are based on analysis of previous open-ended cognitive interviews and represent all of the various considerations used by respondents to construct answers to the core questions. The cognitive control questions are subjective; there is no right or wrong answer. In sum, because they are subjective and based solely on the

respondents perceptions, these control questions should be relatively easy for respondents to answer. However, if a respondent is unable to answer (for whatever reason), check the “No Answer/Don’t Know” option which appears below the list of response options. This No Answer/Don’t Know option (appearing in italics) is not to be read to the respondent and is only to be used in rare occasions-- if the respondent, in all sincerity, cannot answer the question.

- **Third Set of Control Questions for the Respondent:** The control questions on functioning appear at the end of each section. They are designed to provide an objective assessment of the respondent’s physical abilities—information that will help to assess the validity of the core question. However, in our testing of this questionnaire, we found these questions to be the most difficult questions in the questionnaire—especially for respondents who have little education or experience taking surveys. In asking these questions, you may find that these respondents misunderstand the intention of the question or are not able to apply the question to their personal circumstances. In these cases, please do your best to get the most accurate answer—by asking the question in different ways, explaining the purpose, or by observation.

- **Instructions to the respondent:**

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this interview. The purpose of this project is to develop questions about people’s health and abilities to do certain activities that will eventually be asked of many people of all ages around the world. For this project, we need to find out if the questions make sense to everyone and if everyone understands the questions in the same way. Your interview will help us find out how the questions are working.

This interview will last about one hour and will primarily be about your abilities to do certain activities. Many of these questions will seem repetitive and even somewhat strange or too personal. This is because we are testing the questions, and we need to understand what people are considering when they answer a question. Please do you best to answer the questions.

Everything that you tell me is confidential and will be kept private. If you do not want to answer a question, please tell me and I will move to the next question. Before we begin, do you have any questions?

10. Some Qualitative Observations

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>Vision Module</u>			
<u>2.1 Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses or contact lenses?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>The part of the question where it says “even if wearing glasses or contact lenses” generates confusion in some respondents since they do not understand if the question refers to whether or not they wear glasses or contact lenses or to their difficulty seeing. That forces the interviewer to provide an explanation, since many respondents answer that with glasses or contact lenses they see well but without them they cannot.</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>The option “some difficulty” records positive responses for individuals who find no absolute solution to their vision problems by wearing glasses, even if that situation does not impair their activities nor diminish their visual capabilities substantially, as for example in cases of photophobia, problems in one eye or myopia combined with presbyopia.</i></p>	
<u>Why did you answer that way?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question generates surprise on the part of the respondents who do not understand what it refers to and often have already explained why upon providing their answer to the core question.</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>In many cases it generates tautological answers such as, “just because”, “because I have myopia”, “because I have some difficulty”, or “because I see well”.</i></p> <p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable, especially in extreme cases where the answer is self-evident, either because the respondent has no difficulties or when the impairment is complete. It is also uncomfortable when the respondents provide the whole explanation in Question 2.1.</i></p> <p><i>In some cases interviewers chose not to ask it, leaving it blank or recording the</i></p>	

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
		<i>explanation received in the core question.</i>	
<u>2.2 Do you wear glasses all of the time, only for certain activities, or do you not wear them?</u>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>Most respondents who wear glasses or contact lenses for only some activities, instead of answering with one of the response choices, they make comments about what activities they use them for, for example “to read”, “only when I’m working”.</i> <i>Blind respondents who often give an affirmative answer do so because they wear glasses for aesthetic reasons.</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>It was also observed that in some cases there are persons who, for reasons of vanity, decide against using the glasses they actually need on a permanent basis.</i></p>
<u>2.3 Without your glasses or contact lenses, how often do you have difficulty seeing well?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>In some cases it is necessary to insist that the question refers to the frequency of difficulty seeing well <u>without</u> glasses or contact lenses. Most respondents do not choose a response option until they are repeated, explaining again in what occasions they have difficulty seeing and what activities they wear glasses for.</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems <i>As there is no option for “always²”, when they receive such answer they have to record it by hand in the margin, leaving the response choices blank. It is worth noting that there inconsistencies were detected between this answer and the answer already mentioned to the core question (“some difficulty”).</i></p>	
<u>2.3a With your glasses or contact lenses, how often do you have difficulty seeing well?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>In some cases it is necessary to insist that the question refers to the frequency of difficulty seeing well <u>without</u> glasses or contact lenses. Most respondents do not choose a response option until they are repeated, explaining again</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>As there is no option for “always³”, when they receive such answer they have to record it by hand in the margin, leaving the response choices blank. It is worth noting that there inconsistencies</i></p>	

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
	<i>in what occasions they have difficulty seeing and what activities they wear glasses for.</i>	<i>were detected between this answer and the answer already mentioned to the core question (“some difficulty”).</i>	
<u>2.4 Without your glasses or contact lenses, when you are having difficulty, how much effort do you have to put into seeing?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>In some cases it is necessary to insist that the question refers to the effort they need to put into seeing without their glasses or contact lenses. Some respondents. Some respondents do not understand the goal of the question, and the interviewer needs to repeat it, or they do not know how to calculate the level of effort.</i></p> <p><i>Others do not choose a response option until they are repeated, explaining again in what occasions they have difficulty seeing and what activities they wear glasses for. For example, that they only have to make an effort to read or when the print size is very small..</i></p>		
<u>2.4a With your glasses or contact lenses, how much effort do you have to put into seeing?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>In some cases it is necessary to insist on the fact that the question refers to the effort needed to see <u>with</u> glasses or contact lenses. Some respondents do not understand the aim of the question and the interviewer has to repeat it, or else they do not know how to figure the level of effort..</i></p> <p><i>Others do not choose among the response options until they are repeated, explaining again in which occasions they have difficulty seeing and for which activities they need glasses. For example, that they only need to put effort when for reading or when the print size is too small.</i></p>		<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>In some cases they dwelt on the topic of the lens power of their glasses or on the need to get glasses with a stronger correction.</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>2.5 and 2.5a Are there any activities that you cannot do because of a problem with your vision?/Which activities?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>Some respondents answer that with glasses or contact lenses they can do any activity.</i></p> <p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>Some persons suffering from blindness, although admitting their limitations, answer that they can do almost any activity since they have adapted their environment to their needs, and they report that the major obstacle they face is not due to their visual disability but rather with the poor state streets are in the city, and other persons' carelessness or rashness.</i></p>		
<u>2.6 How concerned or worried are you about your vision?</u>		<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>The phrase: "How concerned or worried are you about...?": generates subjective responses that not always relates to the presence or absence of disability. Blind persons report not being worried because they have already lost their vision.</i></p>	
<u>2.7 Have you ever been told by a doctor that you had an injury, disease or condition (such as cataracts or glaucoma) affecting your sight?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>Some respondents did not understand the question and it was necessary to explain what it referred to, lest it would remain unanswered. Others who do not suffer from glaucoma or cataracts answer by commenting that they suffer from myopia or some other visual limitation.</i></p>		
<u>2.8 In the past 2 years, have you</u>			

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>had your vision checked by a doctor?</u>	<i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i>		
<u>2.9a Without your glasses or contact lenses, do you have difficulty seeing the print in a map, newspaper or book?</u>	Respondent Problems <i>In some cases it was necessary to insist on the fact that the question is asking about difficulty seeing without glasses or contact lenses</i>	Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of blind respondents and they often choose not to ask it or ask it apologetically.</i>	Respondent Problems <i>Most respondents mention the difficulty they have to see depending on the print size.</i>
<u>2.9b Without your glasses or contact lenses, do you have difficulty seeing and recognizing a person you know from seven meters away?</u>	Respondent Problems <i>In some cases it is necessary to insist on the fact that the question refers to the difficulty seeing <u>without</u> the glasses or contact lenses.</i>	Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes the interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of blind respondents and they often choose not to ask it, or ask it apologetically.</i>	
<u>2.10a With your glasses or contact lenses, do you have difficulty seeing the print in a map, newspaper or book?</u>	Respondent Problems <i>In some cases it is necessary to insist on the fact that the question refers to the difficulty seeing <u>with</u> the glasses or contact lenses.</i>	Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes the interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of blind respondents who wear glasses or contact lenses for aesthetic reasons. Therefore, the interviewers often choose not to ask it, or ask it apologetically.</i>	Respondent Problems <i>The majority of respondents mention the difficulty they have seeing depending on print size.</i>
<u>2.10b With your glasses or contact lenses, do you have difficulty seeing or recognizing a person you know from seven meters away?</u>	Respondent Problems <i>In some cases it is necessary to insist on the fact that the question refers to the difficulty seeing <u>with</u> the glasses or contact lenses.</i>	Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes the interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of blind respondents who wear glasses or contact lenses for aesthetic reasons. Therefore, the interviewers often choose not to ask it, or ask it apologetically.</i>	Respondent Problems <i>The majority of respondents mention the difficulty they have seeing depending on print size.</i>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<i>Hearing Module</i>			
<u>3.1 Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>The phrase “even if using a hearing aid” is confusing to some respondents who answer that they do not use a hearing aid instead of choosing one of the response choices. Others talk about the fact that as they age they are beginning to lose their hearing, although they sometimes find it hard to select the degree of difficulty.</i></p>		
<u>Why did you answer that way?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>This question generates surprise on the part of some respondents who do not understand what it refers to and who often have already explained why in their answer to the core question.</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems</p> <p><i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable, especially in extreme cases where the answer is self-evident, either because the respondent has no difficulties or when the impairment is complete. It is also uncomfortable when the respondents provide the whole explanation in question 3.1. In some cases interviewers chose not to ask it, leaving it blank or recording the explanation received in the core question.</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>In many cases it generates tautological answers such as, “I’ve always thought I can hear well”, “because as we age we lose this sense”, or “because I have some difficulty”.</i></p>
<u>3.2 Do you wear a hearing aid all of the time, only for certain activities, or none of the time?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>Some respondents indicated they need it but they cannot afford it.</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>3.3 Without your hearing aid, how often do you have difficulty hearing well?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>The phrase “without your hearing aid” is confusing to some respondents, who answer that they do not wear hearing aids instead of selecting a response choice.</p>	<p>Interviewer Problems</p> <p>As there is no option for “always”⁴, when they receive such answer they have to record it by hand in the margin, leaving the response choices blank. It is worth noting that there inconsistencies were detected between this answer and the answer already mentioned to the core question (“some difficulty”).</p> <p><i>It is uncomfortable to ask the full question in cases in which respondents have just mentioned not using hearing aids, which often makes the interviewer omit the phrase “without your hearing aid” or to ask the full question as worded apologetically.</i></p>	
<u>3.3a With your hearing aid, how often do you have difficulty hearing well?</u>		<p>As there is no option for “always”⁵, when they receive such answer they have to record it by hand in the margin, leaving the response choices blank. It is worth noting that there inconsistencies were detected between this answer and the answer already mentioned to the core question (“some difficulty”).</p>	
<u>3.4 Without your hearing aid, when you are having difficulty, how much effort do you have to put into hearing?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>This question was not found to cause problems for respondents, although some prefer to explain in which circumstances they have more</p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
			<i>difficulty hearing before placing themselves in one of the response options.</i>
<u>3.4a With your hearing aid, how much effort do you have to put into hearing?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause problems for respondents, although some prefer to explain under which circumstances they have more difficulty hearing before placing themselves in one of the response options.</i></p>
<u>3.5 and 3.5a Are there any activities that you cannot do because of a problem with your hearing?/ Which activities?</u>			<p><i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i></p>
<u>3.6 How concerned or worried are you about your hearing?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>It was observed that blind respondents express worry about their hearing, not because it is diminished, but because it is the one sense they need to rely on since they are unable to see.</i></p>
<u>3.7 Have you ever been told by a health professional that you had any hearing loss?</u>			<p><i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i></p>
<u>3.8 In the past 2 years, have you had a test to see if you can hear well?</u>			<p><i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>3.9a Without your hearing aid, do you have difficulty hearing what is said in a conversation with one other person in a crowded room?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>The phrase “without your hearing aid” is confusing to some respondents, who answer that they do not use a hearing aid instead of choosing among the response options</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems <i>It was uncomfortable to ask the full question in cases when respondents do not use a hearing aid, which often made the interviewer omit the phrase “without your hearing aid” or to ask the full question apologetically.</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Blind persons reported difficulty identifying voices in a crowded room, but this did not come from hearing difficulties.</i></p>
<u>3.9b Without your hearing aid, do you have difficulty hearing what is said in a conversation with one other person in a quiet room?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>The phrase “without your hearing aid” is confusing to some respondents, who answer that they do not use a hearing aid instead of choosing among the response options</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems <i>It was uncomfortable to ask the full question in cases when respondents do not use a hearing aid, which often made the interviewer omit the phrase “without your hearing aid” or to ask the full question apologetically.</i></p>	
<u>3.10a When wearing your hearing aid, do you have difficulty hearing what is said in a conversation with another person in a crowded room?</u>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties to respondents, although they sometimes answered with a different scheme of options, for example, “always”. Therefore the interviewer had to repeat the answer options provided in the questionnaire.</i></p>	
<u>3.10b When wearing your hearing aid, Do you have difficulty hearing what is said in a conversation with one other person in a quiet room?</u>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties to respondents, although they sometimes answered with a different scheme of options, for example, “always”. Therefore</i></p>	

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
		<i>the interviewer had to repeat the answer options provided in the questionnaire.</i>	
<u>3.11 How often do you miss words in conversation or on the radio or television because you have difficulty hearing?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Respondents don't know how to place themselves within the system of response categories and their answers had to be forced onto it, since they had a tendency to give answers such as "always", "sometimes", etc.</i></p>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents explain that they miss words but they don't have difficulty hearing. Instead they attribute it to distractions or blindness.</i></p>
<u>3.12 Do household or family members tell you that you have a hearing problem?</u>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties for respondents, although it sometimes elicited laughter and sarcastic responses.</i></p>	
<u>Cognitive Module</u>			
<u>4.1 Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents explained that they sometimes have difficulties remembering or concentrating, or because they are tired, nervous or distracted, or if some topic is not of interest to them, since they do not pay the necessary attention. Others report that they have always had difficulty remembering names, for instance.</i></p>		
<u>Why did you answer that way?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question generates surprise on the part of the respondents who do not understand what it refers to and often have already explained why upon providing their answer</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable, especially in the extreme cases in which the response is self-evident, either because the</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>In many cases this question elicits tautological responses such as "because that's how I feel".</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
	<i>to the core question.</i>	<i>respondent has no difficulties or because the impairment is total. It is also uncomfortable to ask when the respondents have already given the full explanation in question 4.1. In some cases they choose not to ask it, leaving it blank, or instead recording the explanation they had received in the core question.</i>	
<u>4.3 How often do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating well?</u>			
<u>4.4 When you are having difficulty, how much effort do you have to put into remembering or concentrating?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>This question was not found to cause problems for respondents, although some prefer to explain in which circumstances they have more difficulty hearing before placing themselves in one of the response options.</i></p>		
<u>4.5 Do you believe that your memory or concentration difficulties are... (code all that apply)</u>		<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>Many respondents report other reasons, such as depression, having surgery, having worries, and the interviewer chooses the option “or for some other reason”, thus losing substantial answers.</i></p>	
<u>4.6 and 4.6a Are there any activities that you cannot do because of a problem with your memory or concentration? / Which activities?</u>		<i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i>	

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>4.7 How concerned or worried are you about your ability to remember or concentrate?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>It was observed that blind respondents express worry about their memory, not because it is diminished, but because it is a sense they need to rely on since they are unable to see.</i></p>
<u>4.8a Do you have difficulty remembering the names of people or places?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Many respondents reported difficulty remembering the names of persons, and they consider it normal.</i></p>
<u>4.8b Do you have difficulty remembering appointments?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Many respondents commented that they write appointments down in a calendar so as not to forget them.</i></p>
<u>4.8c Do you have difficulty remembering how to get to familiar places?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents mentioned they do not go out much. Others get easily disoriented, but they consider it normal.</i></p>
<u>4.8d Do you have difficulty remembering important tasks, like taking medications or paying bills or taxes?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents commented that they write down when they need to pay bills or take medication so as not to forget.</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
			<i>Absent-minded persons reported that they can forget, although they consider it normal.</i>
<u>4.9 Do you have difficulty concentrating or doing a task for ten minutes?</u>			<i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i>
<u>4.10 Do you have difficulty learning a new task, for example, learning how to get to a new place?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Respondents with visual or mobility impairments have difficulty going out of the house, learning to get to new places and going to new places or places they do not know, or that do not have the adequate infrastructure.</i></p>
<u>4.11 Do you have difficulty finding solutions to problems in day to day life?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents sarcastically answer that we all have this type of difficulty, or they talk about what type of daily difficulties they have, for instance, that they financial problems.</i></p>
<u>Lower Mobility Module</u>			
<u>5.1 Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>It was noted that some respondents answered they have difficulty due to locomotion problems, but others because they are in poor</i></p>		

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
	<p><i>health, due to respiratory problems or some other condition.</i></p> <p><i>On the other hand, a respondent who uses a cane answered that he had no difficulties because with the cane he solved his limitation.</i></p>		
<u>Why did you answer that way?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>This question generates surprise on the part of the respondents who do not understand what it refers to and often have already explained why upon providing their answer to the core question.</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems</p> <p><i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable, especially in the extreme cases in which the response is self-evident, either because the respondent has no difficulties or because the impairment is total. It is also uncomfortable to ask when the respondents have already given the full explanation in question 5.1. In some cases they choose not to ask it, leaving it blank, or instead recording the explanation they had received in the core question.</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>In many cases it elicits tautological responses such as “because I cannot walk”.</i></p>
<p><u>5.2 Do you use any kind of technical aid, such as a wheelchair, walker or cane, to get around?</u></p> <p><u>5.2a What type of technical aid do you use?</u></p>		<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p><i>This question was not found to cause difficulties for the respondents, but sometimes it does difficulties for the interviewers, although in some cases respondents failed to report what aids they use (for example, a woman who wears a corset) or reported using aids that are not conceptually included in the question, such as a guiding cane for the blind.</i></p>	

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>5.3 Do you have difficulty walking, climbing steps or both?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents find it difficult to give precise responses because they only have difficulties in specific cases, for example if the steps are steep or if they don't have their cane, or they report they do the activity anyway despite pain or some discomfort..</i></p>
<u>5.4 Without the technical aid of your [replace with what is used], how often do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>The phrase "without the technical aid of your..." is confusing to some respondents who answer that they do not use any technical aid instead of choosing one of the response choices</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems <i>As there is no option for "always"⁶, when they receive such answer they have to record it by hand in the margin, leaving the response choices blank. It is worth noting that there inconsistencies were detected between this answer and the answer already mentioned to the core question ("some difficulty").</i></p>	
<u>5.4a When using your [replace with what is used], how often do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems <i>As there is no option for "always"⁷, when they receive such answer they have to record it by hand in the margin, leaving the response choices blank. It is worth noting that there inconsistencies were detected between this answer and the answer already mentioned to the core question ("some difficulty").</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents find it difficult to give precise responses because they only have difficulties in specific cases, for example if they are tired. Or, if they do it slowly, they are able to walk and go up the stairs.</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>5.5 When you are having difficulty without using your [replace with what is used], how much effort do you have to put into walking or climbing steps?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems</p> <p>As there is no option for “always”⁸, when they receive such answer they have to record it by hand in the margin, leaving the response choices blank. It is worth noting that there inconsistencies were detected between this answer and the answer already mentioned to the core question (“some difficulty”).</p>	<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>This question was not found to cause problems for respondents, although some prefer to explain under which circumstances they have more difficulty hearing before placing themselves in one of the response options, since getting help from others reduces the difficulty for them.</p>
<u>5.5a When you are using your [replace with what is used], how much effort do you have to put into walking or climbing steps?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>This question was not found to cause problems for respondents, although some prefer to explain under which circumstances they have more difficulty walking or climbing stairs before placing themselves in one of the response options. On the other hand, they indicate that they do not always have the same degree of difficulty for walking as for climbing stairs.</p>
<u>5.6 and 5.6a Are there any activities that you cannot do because of a problem with your legs? Which activities?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>These questions did not seem to create difficulties for respondents, although some do not know what to answer since, if they do the activities slowly or if the infrastructure is prepared for persons with limitations, they do not have difficulties doing activities, but if the opposite is true, they do have them.</p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>5.7 How concerned or worried are you about your ability to walk or climb steps?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>Respondents who have severe motor disabilities such as paraplegics or quadriplegics, report they are not worried about their condition because they have already accepted it. Those who are the most worried by problems are those who have beginning problems or some discomfort.</p>
<u>5.8 Do you have difficulty moving around inside your home?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>This question was not found to cause difficulties for respondents, although some explain how they handle themselves at home or if they need help from someone else to move around, before they choose one of the response options.</p>
<u>5.9 Do you have difficulty going outside of your home?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems</p> <p>Some respondents explain they leave by taxicab or that someone else drives them and that they don't know what difficulty level they should report.</p> <p>In cases of complete disability, respondents talk about depending on the infrastructure of the places they attempt to</p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>5.10 Do you have difficulty walking a long distance such as ten blocks?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of paraplegic or quadriplegic respondents and they often choose not to ask it or ask the question apologetically.</i></p>	<p><i>access and the condition of the streets.</i></p> <p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties to respondents, although some answered that they get tired, which is not associated to problems in lower mobility.</i></p>
<u>5.11a By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty walking for about 2 or 3 blocks?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>In some cases it is necessary to restate to the respondent that the question refers to the difficulty <u>without</u> the use of technical aids.</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of paraplegic or quadriplegic respondents and they often choose not to ask it or ask the question apologetically. On the other hand, it seems repetitive to those who already answered in the previous question that they have difficulty walking ten blocks.</i></p>	
<u>5.11b By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty taking ten steps without resting?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of paraplegic or quadriplegic respondents and they often choose not to ask it or ask the question apologetically. On the other hand, it seems repetitive to those who already answered in the previous questions that they have difficulty walking ten blocks, or two or three blocks.</i></p>	

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>5.11c By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty standing or being on your feet for about 2 hours?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable in the cases of paraplegic or quadriplegic respondents and they often choose not to ask it or ask the question apologetically.</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents report getting tired, but they consider this normal.</i> <i>Others report they cannot do it but not due to reasons associated with lower mobility.</i></p>
<u>5.11d By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty sitting for about 2 hours?</u>		<i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i>	
<u>5.11e By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty stooping, crouching or kneeling?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some report difficulties they have that are not associated with lower mobility, but rather, for instance, with bad health</i></p>
<u>Self-Care Module</u>			
<u>6.1 Do you have difficulty with your personal care, such as washing or dressing?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>A respondent understood the question to refer to whether he had difficulty dressing appropriately.</i></p>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties to respondents, although in some cases makes them laugh.</i></p>
<u>Why did you answer that way?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable, especially in extreme cases where the answer is self-evident, and also when respondents provide the</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>In many cases it elicits tautological responses such as "because I do everything by myself" or</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
		<i>whole explanation in question 6.1. In some cases interviewers chose not to ask it, leaving it blank or recording the explanation received in the core question.</i>	<i>“because that’s how I feel.”</i>
<u>6.2 How often do you have difficulty caring for yourself?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>The phrase “caring for yourself” is confusing to some respondents, who wonder what it refers to.</i></p>		
<u>6.3 When you are having difficulty, how much effort do you have to put into caring for yourself?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>The phrase “caring for yourself” is confusing to some respondents, who wonder what it refers to.</i></p>		
<u>6.4 How concerned or worried are you about your ability to care for yourself?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents report being worried about losing their independence either because of a recent problem worsening, because of aging, or because they may get sick one day.</i></p>
<u>6.5 How often do you wish you could care for yourself better?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents do not understand the question and it as to be repeated to them.</i></p>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>Others report they would like to have more time for physical activity or for paying more attention to their health.</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>6.6a By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty putting your hands on your head?</u>	<p><i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i></p>		
<u>6.6b By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty reaching out to shake someone's hand?</u>	<p><i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i></p>		
<u>6.6c By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty using your fingers to button a shirt or dress?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems A respondent with problems in mobility in her upper limbs explained she manages using just two fingers in her right hand.</p>
<u>6.6d By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty putting on socks or stockings?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems It is difficult to record the answer when the respondent indicates s/he has difficulty "sometimes".</p>	<p>Respondent Problems A respondent with problems in mobility in her upper limbs explained sh manages using just two fingers in her right hand. Another one explains she cannot put on socks but due to problems crouching rather than with her hands.</p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>6.6e By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty tying your shoelaces?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents explain they cannot do it, but not due to problems crouching, rather than with her hands.</i></p>
<u>6.6f By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty combing your hair?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents explain they manage with just one hand.</i></p>
<u>6.6g By yourself and not using aids, do you have any difficulty feeding yourself?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents explain they manage with just one hand. Also, another respondent reported having difficulties because of problems swallowing.</i></p>
<u>6.7 Did you ever need someone to help you with everyday activities such as eating, showering, dressing or toileting?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question made respondents hesitant, and many reported they have needed help after surgery, an accident or illness, which they consider normal and not associated to any difficulty or disability in particular.</i></p>
<u>6.8 Do you have difficulty using your hands and fingers, such as picking up small objects or opening or closing containers?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties for respondents, although some prefer to explain in which cases they have limitations,</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
			<i>before choosing a response option. Others explain that they have problems picking up small objects or opening or closing containers, but not due to difficulties using their hands, but rather due to lack of balance or fatigue, for instance.</i>
<u>6.9 Do you ever feel too tired or sad to dress or bathe?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties for respondents, although some add, after giving an affirmative response that they consider it normal for a person to feel some time in their lives.</i></p>
<u>Communication Module</u>			
<u>7.1 Because of a physical, mental or health condition, do you have difficulty communicating, for example understanding or being understood by others?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents report hearing or speech problems which make communication difficult. Others report that if they take medication they have no problems.</i></p>		
<u>Why did you answer that way?</u>		<p>Interviewer Problems <i>This question makes interviewers uncomfortable, especially in extreme cases where the answer is self-evident, and also when the respondents provide the whole</i></p>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>In many cases this question generates tautological answers such as "because that's how it is" or "because I'm told so".</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
		<p><i>explanation in question 7.1.</i></p> <p><i>In some cases interviewers chose not to ask it, leaving it blank or recording the explanation received in the core question.</i></p>	
<u>7.2 How often do you have difficulty understanding or being understood?</u>	<p><i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i></p>		
<u>7.3 When you are having difficulty, how much effort do you have to put into understanding or being understood?</u>			<p><i>Respondent Problems</i></p> <p><i>Some respondents explain they only need to have others talk loudly or looking straight at them.</i></p>
<u>7.4 How concerned or worried are you about your ability to understand or be understood?</u>			<p><i>Respondent Problems</i></p> <p><i>Some respondents report concerns about losing their hearing or due to the diminishing abilities with aging. Others report that since through aids or medication their problem is taken care of, they do not worry. Finally, some persons feel preoccupied about the possibility of having some problem in the future.</i></p>
<u>7.5 Do you have difficulty in generally understanding what people say?</u>	<p><i>Respondent Problems</i></p> <p><i>Most of the respondents who report some type of difficulty understanding what people say, explain that it is due to hearing limitations.</i></p>		

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
	<i>Some mentioned that there are people who speak in convoluted or complex ways.</i>		
<u>7.6 Do you have difficulty in starting and maintaining a conversation?</u>	<i>This question did not seem to cause difficulties for either respondents or interviewers.</i>		
<u>7.7 Do you have difficulty in making new friends?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question elicits affirmative answers from persons who are shy but who have no physical, mental or health problems.</i></p>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>Others clarify that they do not go out or that they no longer are interested in making new friends.</i></p>
<u>7.8 Do you feel shy in group or social situations?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question elicits affirmative answers from persons who are shy but who have no physical, mental or health problems.</i></p>		<p>Respondent Problems <i>Others clarify that they do not go out or that they usually do not find themselves in social situations with persons they don't know.</i></p>
<u>General Health Module</u>			
<u>8.1 Would you say your health in general is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties to respondents, but is not comparable across different types of respondents. Some people with serious disabilities such as quadriplegics or people with breathing disorders consider their health very good because they never get the flu or feel ill frequently, and others with many fewer conditions</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
			<i>report worse health because they suffer from migraines.</i>
<u>Why did you answer that way?</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>This question was not found to cause difficulties to respondents, but just the opposite: respondents reported that it gave them a good opportunity to talk in detail about their health conditions.</i></p>
<u>8.2 Were you thinking about your (code all that apply) your physical, mental, or spiritual health?</u>	<p>Respondent Problems <i>Respondents do not understand what the question refers to, and the interviewer needs to explain that it refers to the answer provided in question 8.1.</i></p>	<p>Interviewer Problems <i>Interviewers are forced to reword the question, adding some phrase that references the previous question, for example: "when you told me that your health was good, were you thinking... ", because, otherwise, respondents do not understand what the question is referring to.</i></p> <p>Respondent Problems <i>Some respondents consider that the physical health status differs from the mental and spiritual, and say that in that case they should provide different for each of those states.</i></p>	
<u>8.3 Do you have any of the following conditions? Asthma / breathing problem;</u>			<p>Respondent Problems <i>Respondents were unsure regarding past conditions that are now cured, such as cancers or fractures that have been</i></p>

Question	Problems with Interpretation/ Precision/ Question Does Not Capture What It Intends to Measure	Problems with the Conceptual Design of the Questionnaire (Missing Skips, Missing Response Categories, Poorly Designed Question)	Other Problems or Observations of Interest
<u>arthritis/rheumatism; back or neck problems; fracture, bone/joint injury; heart problems; stroke problems; hypertension/high blood pressure; diabetes; cancer; mental retardation; developmental problem; depression/anxiety/emotional problem; missing limbs or amputee; kidney, bladder or renal problem; neurological disorder such as Multiple Sclerosis and Muscular Dystrophy</u>			<p><i>cured.</i></p> <p><i>With regard to emotional problems, some respondents consider that all people suffer from them.</i></p> <p><i>There were cases observed in which persons with Down's syndrome first report some disability when this question is asked. In some cases of persons with severe mental retardation that do not understand the questionnaire, this can only be detected when asking the proxy informant.</i></p>

Problems Specific to the Interviewers

In the first interviews, 2.2 – 2.3 to – 2.4 – 2.4 to – 3.3 – 3.3 to – 3.4 – 3.4 to – 4.2 – 4.3 – 4.4 – 4.5 – 5.3 – 5.4 – 5.4 to – 5.5 – 5.5 to – 6.2 – 6.3

- 7.2 – 7.3 were asked not only of respondents answering “some difficulty” but also to those who answered “quite a bit of difficulty” and “I cannot do it”.
After the inconsistencies were detected, the filter began to be correctly applied.*
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Problems Specific to the Informants

- 1. In the interviews with proxy informants, it became apparent that some of them do not know if the respondent has had medical checkups or if they have had a disability diagnosed. In the opposite situation, in cases of, people with Down’s syndrome or mental retardation who do not understand the questionnaire, this was only detected when interviewing the proxy informant and, occasionally, only in the module on general health.*
- 2. It proved very difficult to find informants for persons living alone.*
- 3. In some cases, informant refused the interview.*

Final Comments

The implementation of the Cognitive Test for the measurement of disability in Argentina has provided some preliminary basis for conclusions, as a product of the eminently qualitative evaluations carried out.

Regarding the VISION domain: the part of the question saying “even wearing glasses or contact lenses” causes confusion among some respondents, since they do not understand if the question asks whether or not they wear glasses or lenses, or whether it is about difficulty seeing. That makes it necessary for the interviewer to provide an explanation, since many respondents clarify that with glasses or contact lenses they can see well, but without them they cannot.

Regarding the HEARING domain: the phrase “even using a hearing aid” is confusing to some respondents who answer that they do not use a hearing aid instead of choosing one of the response options. Others comment that as they age they have began losing their hearing, although they do not always find it easy to select the degree of difficulty they experience.

Regarding the COGNITIVE domain: in this domain we found the core question than presents the most serious difficulty in terms of the validity and accuracy of responses. In fact, some respondents explain that they sometimes have difficulty remembering or concentrating because they are tired, nervous or distracted. Or, if they are not interested in a specific topic, they have difficulty concentrating because they do not pay the necessary attention. Others report they have always had difficulty remembering names, for example.

Regarding the LOWER MOBILITY domain: it was noted that some respondents answer they have difficulty because they have locomotion problems while others say it's because of their poor state of health, or due to respiratory problems or some other condition that does not relate to difficulties in lower mobility. On the other hand, cases were also detected in which the respondent used external technical aids, such as a cane, and answered he had no difficulties because with the cane his limitation was solved.

Regarding the SELF CARE domain: these questions were not found to cause difficulties for respondents, although in some cases they elicited laughter.

Regarding the COMMUNICATION domain: some respondents reported they have hearing or speech problems that impair communication. Others say that as long as they take medication they do not have any problems.

Regarding the functioning of the core questions, it was noted that some persons answer “some difficulty” and later report that they “always” have difficulty seeing, hearing or walking.