

**NHANES 2001-2002 Data Release  
May 2004  
Sample Person Questionnaire**

**Medical Conditions (MCQ\_B)**

Survey Years Included in this File: 2001-2002

**Questionnaire Section Characteristics:**

**Questionnaire Section Description:**

The Medical Conditions section (variable name prefix MCQ) provides self-reported personal interview data on a broad range of health conditions for both children and adults. Many questions in the NHANES 2001-2002 MCQ section are also contained in previous NHANES surveys allowing researchers to monitor health trends over time. The NHANES MCQ questionnaire segment is generally modeled on the "Medical Conditions" questionnaire section of the U.S. National Health Interview Survey. In accordance with the Department of Health and Human Services' Survey Integration Plan, a number of questions on health conditions are in fact identical to those used in the redesigned National Health Interview Survey adult and child core sections that started in 1997.

**Interview Setting:**

Home Interview

**Mode of administration:**

In-person

**Topics Included in the Section:**

**Health Conditions / Medical History:**

Asthma, Childhood and Adult	Ear Infections	Stroke
Anemia	Emphysema	Stuttering/Stammering
Angina	Hay Fever	Thyroid problems
Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD)	Headache	Vision difficulties
Arthritis (Rheumatoid & Osteoarthritis)	Heart Attack (Myocardial Infarction)	
Blood Transfusions	Lead Poisoning Testing	
Cancer (Multiple Varieties)	Learning Disability	
Chronic Bronchitis	Liver Disease	
Congestive Heart Failure	Menses Onset	
Coronary Heart Disease	Overweight	

## Family History of Disease:

Alzheimer's Disease  
Asthma  
Diabetes  
High Blood Pressure/Stroke  
Heart Attack/Angina  
Hip Fracture in Mother  
Osteoporosis

## Questions Regarding Twelve Month Period Prevalence of Disablement:

Respondent Missed School Because of Illness or Injury (Children)  
Respondent Missed Job Because of Illness or Injury (Adults)

## Eligible sample and any section-specific exclusion criteria:

The target samples for questions in this section vary by age and gender. Please review the codebook carefully. Frequency counts were verified during the preparation of the file.

## Links to examination and laboratory data:

A number of additional questions occur in MCQ that are logically related to other questionnaire sections or exam segments. Analysts should refer to these other NHANES sections as a part of any data analysis.

### Condition:

Blood Transfusion History  
Prior Lead Poisoning Testing  
Menses Onset < Age 12 Years  
Overweight, Physician Told  
Trouble Seeing with Current  
Vision Correction

### Relates to:

LAB (HIV, Hepatitis Serology, Liver Enzymes)  
LAB (Blood Lead)  
RHQ  
WHQ  
VIQ & LAB (Visual Acuity Testing)

## Data Processing and Editing:

The data were reviewed and edited for completeness, consistency, and illogical values.

### **MCQ025** Age when first had asthma.

4 zero values were changed to 'don't know', since the youngest allowable age for this question was 1. In one instance, the age of asthma diagnosis was greater than the

respondent's current age and the value for this variable was adjusted to the current age.

**MCQ180A** Age when told you had arthritis.

In one instance, the age of arthritis diagnosis was greater than the respondent's current age and the value for this variable was adjusted to the current age.

**MCD147** Menstrual periods started yet?

The numbering of this question was changed in 2002 when the follow up question of how old respondent was at menarche was dropped, although no changes to the wording of this question were made. MCD147 is a combination of the old and new variables corresponding to this question.

**Thyroid Questions (MCD160M, MCD170M, MCD180M):**

In 2002, one general question about thyroid problems was substituted for the previous 2 questions regarding goiter and other thyroid disease. The data from the two thyroid questions asked in 2001 were edited to be comparable to the thyroid problems data from 2002 in the following manner: A 'yes' for either of the 2 thyroid questions was coded as 'yes'. A 'no' for both was coded as 'no'. A 'don't know' for both was coded as 'don't know'. A 'no' for one question and a 'don't know' for the other was coded as 'don't know'. If one of the two responses was missing, the value of the other response was retained.

For the age at which thyroid problems were diagnosed, if there were two different ages for each of the questions, the lowest age value was retained.

**Analytic Notes:**

The age group asked follow up questions on asthma was changed between the 1999-2000 data collection and the 2001-2002 data collection. The questions regarding how old a respondent was when first told he/she had asthma and whether the respondent still has asthma were asked of 1-19 year olds only in 1999-2000 and were asked of all ages in 2001-2002. When combining the two datasets, the age groups asked the questions should be taken into consideration.

A number of questions asked in the MCQ section for 1999-2000 were not continued in this section for 2001-2002. These include:

- History of chicken pox
- History of childhood hypertension and hypertension medication
- Age at menarche (age < 12 years)
- History of peptic ulcer
- Family history of arthritis

Questions on family history of prostate cancer were added to this section in 2002. These data are not included in the public release to eliminate the disclosure risk of

releasing data collected in only one of the two years.

**Data Access:**

The MCQ data are publicly available at [www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm)

**Reference:**

None.