

## **UKHLS**

### **NEW ENTRANTS**

*In Waves 1, 3-5 (New entrants were not asked about their health conditions in Wave 2)*

were asked HCOND, “Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that you have any of the conditions listed on this card?” and they can choose from 17 conditions. They can choose more than one option. Their responses are recorded in HCOND1-17 (0= not mentioned 1=mentioned). If the respondent mentions a health condition, then they are asked two follow up questions:

(1) whether they still have the health condition, and their responses are recorded in HCONDS1-17 (1=yes, 2=no);

(2) the age at which they were first told they have the health condition, and their responses are recorded in HCONDA1-17.

The 17 conditions listed were Asthma, Arthritis, Congestive heart failure, Coronary heart disease, Angina, Heart attack or myocardial infarction, Stroke, Emphysema, Hyperthyroidism or an over-active thyroid, Hypothyroidism or an under-active thyroid, Chronic bronchitis, Any kind of liver condition, Cancer or malignancy, Diabetes, Epilepsy, High blood pressure and Clinical depression.

Note: HCONDS6-7 (heart attack and stroke) do not have any valid answers as it does not make sense to ask if someone still has these conditions. HCOND96 is coded if the respondent does not indicate they have any of the 17 listed conditions (“none of these”).

*In Waves 6-9*

Were also asked about “Other” health conditions, HCOND18

*In Waves 7-9*

Were also asked about multiple sclerosis and HIV, HCOND19-20 (& the follow-ups HCONDA19-20, HCONDS19-20).

### **CONTINUING SAMPLE MEMBERS** (including BHPS sample members)

*In Waves 2-5*

Were asked, “Since [previous interview date] has a doctor or other health professional newly diagnosed you as having any of the conditions listed on this card?”, and they can choose from 17 conditions. They can choose more than one option. Their responses recorded in HCONDN1-17 (0=not mentioned, 1=mentioned). If the respondent mentions a condition they are asked a follow up question: whether they still have that new health condition (excluding heart attack and stroke) and their responses are recorded in HCONDNS1-17 (1=yes, 2=no).

*In Waves 6-9*

Were also asked about “Other” health conditions, HCONDN18.

*In Waves 7-9*

Were also asked about multiple sclerosis and HIV, HCONDN19-20 (& the follow-ups HCONDA19-20, HCONDS19-20).

### **In Wave 10, all health condition questions were changed further**

New entrants were asked HCOND1-8, HCOND10-16, HCOND18-19 and additional conditions, HCOND21-22 (“COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease)” & “An emotional, nervous or psychiatric problem”). *Note HCOND9 (“Hyperthyroidism or an over-active thyroid”) and HCOND17 (“Clinical Depression”) were dropped.* Then if some of these conditions were selected, additional questions were asked to identify additional health conditions and (those who chose HCOND2=1 were asked ARTHTYP, HCOND13=1 are asked CANCEERTYP, HCOND14=1 are asked DIABETESTYP, HCOND22=1 are asked MHEALTHTYP). Using all responses from the HCOND and the follow-up questions, HCONDCODE1, 3-8, 10-12, 15-16, 19-21, 23-43, 97 were computed. So, these show the complete list of health conditions ever diagnosed by new entrants. The corresponding age at which the health condition was diagnosed and whether the person still has condition variables are recorded in HCONDA\* & HCONDS\*, but not for the conditions: HCONDCODE25, 32, 36, 43+.

ALL continuing sample members were asked if they ever had been diagnosed one of 22 health conditions, even though they had been asked these questions in some previous wave. So, these variables were given a different name: HCONDEVER1-9, HCONDEVER10-16, HCONDEVER19-22, HCONDEVER97. Then if some of these conditions were selected, additional questions were asked to identify additional health conditions (those who chose HCONDEVER2=1 were asked ARTHTYPN, HCONDEVER13=1 are asked CANCEERTYPN, HCONDEVER14=1 are asked DIABETESTYPN, HCONDEVER22=1 are asked MHEALTHTYPN). Using all responses from the HCOND and the follow-up questions. Using the HCONDEVER and the follow-up questions HCONDNCODE1, 3-8, 10-12, 15-16, 19-21, 23-43 were computed. So, these show the complete list of health conditions every diagnosed by continuing members. Follow-up questions were asked about the age at which each condition was diagnosed and if they still have that condition. But these are provided in a different format to the ones for new entrants. See Box 1 which explains this further.

#### **Box 1**

Continuing sample members were asked to report as many of the health conditions on the list that they had been diagnosed with. These were provided as a series of 13 variables: HCONDNO1-HCONDNO13 and then for each they were asked (i) the age at which diagnose and available in the variables HCONDNA1-13, and (ii) whether the respondent still has the condition and is available in the variables HCONDNS1-13. . Currently the value labels for HCONDNO1-13 are missing, these will be added in the next release. For now, please use the value label for HCONDNCODE1-43 variables where 1 is Asthma, 3 is congestive heart failure etc.

To identify the age at which a person was diagnosed with a health condition, requires a few more steps. E.g., to know the age at which this person was diagnosed with Asthma, first identify the n for which if HCONDNO<sub>n</sub>=1. Let's say n=2, then HCONDNA<sub>2</sub> shows the age at which this person was diagnosed with Asthma. Similarly, to know about the age at which a person was diagnosed with Emphysema first identify the n for which if HCONDNO<sub>n</sub>=8. Let's say n=1, then HCONDNA<sub>1</sub> shows the age at which this person was diagnosed with Emphysema. Use similar steps with HCONDNS1-13 to know whether the person still has the diagnosed health condition.

## **BHPS**

The health condition questions in BHPS were worded differently. The questions asked whether they had the condition rather than whether a health professional had told them they had it and the list of health conditions they could choose from was different. So, these questions are not exactly harmonisable with the UKHLS questions. The health conditions offered from Wave 1 were Arms, legs, hands, etc, Sight, Hearing, Skin conditions/allergy, Chest/breathing, Heart/blood pressure, Stomach or digestion, Diabetes, Anxiety, depression, etc, Alcohol or drugs, Epilepsy, Migraine, Other. Responses were recorded in HLPRBA-M (0=not mentioned, 1=mentioned). From Wave 11, Cancer and Stroke were also added and responses recorded in HLPRBN-O. In Waves 11 and 16 some additional questions were included on treatment for those conditions the respondent said they had, which were recorded in HLPRXA-O (1=yes, 2=no).