# Codebook for Whitehall\_NA.csv

Data are from the first wave of the Whitehall II study, collected in 2002. Participants were a sample of around 10,000 workers in the civil service in London, UK.

## Variables

id, participant identification number

age, age in years from birth

male, dummy variable for male sex

jobgrade, job grade: 1 = high grade, 2 = middle grade, 3 = low grade

illness, dummy variable for having a longstanding, limiting illness

smoke, dummy variable for current smoker

bmi, body-mass index (weight in kg / height in m squared)

life, SF36 questionnaire item “how often do you feel full of life” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

nervous, SF36 item “how often do you feel nervous” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

down, SF36 item “how often do you down” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

peace, SF36 item “how often do you feel peaceful” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

energy, SF36 item “how often do you feel energetic” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

sad, SF36 item “how often do you feel sad” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

wornout, SF36 item “how often do you feel wornout” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

happy, SF36 item “how often do you feel happy” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

tired, SF36 item “how often do you feel happy” (Responses: 0 = never, to 6 = always)

## SF36 factor structure

Ware (2000) suggested that the 36 questionnaire items that make up the SF36 health screening questionnaire could be represented by eight “scales” or latent factors; see Figure 1 below. In particular, he suggested that five observed items (nervous, down, peaceful, sad, happy) reflected a single latent “mental health” factor.

## Reference

Ware, J. (2000). SF-36 Health Survey Update. Spine. 25(24):3130-3139.

Figure 1: SF36 factor structure from Ware (2000)