**TITLE: WOMEN’S AUTONOMY AND HEALTH-SEEKING BEHAVIOUR FOR UNDER-5 CHILDREN ACROSS GEOPOLITICAL ZONES IN NIGERIA**

**BROAD OBJECTIVE:**

The general objective of this study is to examine the relationship between women’s autonomy in the household and health-seeking behaviorsforUnder-5 Children in Nigeria.

**Specific Objectives:**

The specific objectives are to:

* 1. Describe the pattern of healthcare-seeking behavior for under-5 children across the geopolitical zones in Nigeria.
  2. Examine the relationship between women’s autonomy and HSB for Under 5 children in each of the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria.
  3. Identify factors that influence the relationship between women’s autonomy and HSB for Under 5 children in each of the six geopolitical zones in Nigeria.

**OPERATIONAL TERMS**

**INTERMEDIATE VARIABLE**

**WOMEN’S AUTONOMY:** In this study Women’s Autonomy is characterized by

(1) the ability to seek care for her health,

(2) the ability to visit family or relations,

(3) Be able to make decisions on Large/ Major purchases in the home, and,

(4) her ability to bargain for Sex.

**OUTCOME VARIABLE: HSB FOR UNDER-5 CHILDREN**

The Health seeking behaviours will be computed and compressed to a dichotomous variable coded into (1) if appropriate health-seeking was taken and (0) if appropriate behavior or health-seeking was sought. This is formulated from the Section in the NDHS 2018 Questionnaire where any kind of advice or treatment options was sought and will be limited to 3 major Childhood illnesses, namely, Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) – Cough, Fever, and Diarrhea, which was undertaken by the mother in seeking health for her sick Child, this was adapted from an NDHS publication of Budu, E., et al 2021.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **S/N** | **VARIABLES** | **DEFINITION OF VARIABLES** | **Variable code 2018 ndhs** |
|  | **BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS** |  |  |
| 1 | Age (Current age of respondent at survey) | Range from 15 – 49 years, Grouped Ages | V013 |
| 2 | Number of living/surviving children | Total Number Alive | V218 |
| 3 | Income status of respondent | Wealth Index | V190 |
| 4 | Highest Educational level of respondent | None, primary, secondary, tertiary | V106 |
| 5 | Occupation of respondent | Employed, self-employed, unemployed | V716 |
| 6 | Religion | Christian, Muslim, others | V130 |
| 7 | Type of marriage | Religious, traditional, registry | V501 |
| 8 | Type of place of residence | Urban / Rural | V102 |
| 9 | Ethnicity | Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa and Others | V131 |
| **S/N** | **VARIABLES** | **DEFINITION OF VARIABLES** | **VARIABLE CODE IN 2018 NDHS** |
| 10 | Total no of children ever lost | Nature of loss (illness, accident, etc) | V206, V207 |
| 11 | Sex differentials of surviving children | Ratio of female to Male Children | V202-V205 |
| 12 | Parity | Birth order (BORD) | BIDX$01-20 |
| 13 | REGION | 6 Geopolitical regions | V024, V101 |
|  |  |  |  |
| **AUTONOMY OF THE MOTHER (INTERMEDIATE VARIABLE)** | | | INDIVIDUAL RECODE |
| 1 | SEEK HEALTH CARE FOR SELF | Contraceptive/Reproductive, | V394, V467A |
| 2 | VISIT FAMILY/RELATIVES | Visits without/with Consultation | V743D |
| 3 | MAKE MAJOR PURCHASES | E.g. buys TV etc. without/with Consultation | V743B |
| 4 | SEXUAL BARGAINING POWER | Refusal of Sex | V850A |
|  | RECODE WOMEN’S AUTONOMY INTO :  1 IF Participates in all 4 decision making variables  2 if participates in none of the decision making Variables  3 participates in 3 or less decision making variables | |  |
|  | (PLEASE LIMIT TO INDIVIDUAL RECODE WHICH IS FOR LIVING CHILDREN) | |  |
| **\*HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOUR/PRACTICE FOR UNDER-5**  Section in Recode Manual- Where do the variables go?  Recoding of the DHS VII Core Questionnaire Variables to the DHS VII Standard Recode  Variables **QWSEC06A = REC41 (cont.) : Child health and nutrition Page 11** | | |  |
| 1 | Diarrhea  \*Appropriate Health care is Sought and provided for Diarrhoea (1)  Not Appropriate (0) | Q608 = H11 : Diarrhea in last 2weeks  Q611 = in H12A:H12Z : Sought treatment for diarrhea  Q612 = in H12A:H12Z : Where sought treatment  Q614 = H44A : First advice or treatment for diarrhea  Q615A = H13 : Fluid from ORS Packet  Q615B = H13B : Pre-packaged ORS liquid  Q615C = H14 : Home-made fluid  Q615D = H15E : Zinc  Q616 = H21A : Anything else to treat diarrhea  Q617 = H15, H15A:H15M, H20 : Given to treat diarrhea | H21 (SUMMARY)  H21A- other treatments outside the professional treatments needs listing according to the Regions    Note : H12A:H12Z – if care sought at a Hospital (Private, Govt or Public it constitutes appropriate and otherwise constitutes inappropriate behavior )  H44A if advice or treatment was sough outside Medical professional it constitutes inappropriate behavior |
| 2 | Fever  \*Appropriate Health care is Sought and provided for Fever (1)  Not Appropriate (0) | Q618 = H22 : Fever in last 2 weeks  Q619 = H47 : Blood taken from finger or heel for testing | H22 & H47 |
| 3 | Cough  \*Appropriate Health care is Sought and provided for Cough (1)  Not Appropriate (0) | Q620 = H31 : Cough in last 2 weeks  Q622 = H31C : Problem in the chest or blocked or running nose | H31 |
|  | Cough & Fever | Q624 = in H32A:H32Z : Sought advice/treatment for fever/cough  Q625 = in H32A:H32Z : Where sought advice/treatment  Q627 = H46A : First advice or treatment for fever/cough  Q628 = H46B : Days after illness sought advice or treatment for: fever/cough  Q629 = in H37A:H37Z or ML13A:ML13 : Any drugs for fever/cough  Q630 = in H37A:H37Z or ML13A:ML13 : Drugs for fever/cough | H32A:H32Z  H46A:H46B  if care sought at a Hospital (Private, Govt or Public it constitutes appropriate and otherwise constitutes inappropriate behavior)  H37A:H37Z or ML13A:ML13 If drugs used its appropriate behavior |
|  | HSB\*  Compute all variables and recoded into a dichotomous Variable where Appropriate HSB1 appropriate HS behavior  0 Inappropriate HS behavior  (making use of any other treatment options other than from health care provider is considered inappropriate behaviour ) | | |
| Guide | **(Section W4A (REC4A)) (Pg84/90)**  **Section and Variable Description – Individual**  In the DHS I individual recode only living children were included.  HIDXA Index to the birth history. All children born in the last years have entries in this section.  Children of multiple births each have their own entry as in the maternity history.  **BASE:** Children born in the last 5 years (B19 < 60).  **Section W4A (REC4A) Health History**  The health history contains up to six entries, relating to children born in the last five years. All children born in the last five years, covering months 0 to 59 prior to the interview, as for the maternity history, are included.  The children who have died are included in this section, whereas in the DHS I individual recode only living children were included. For children who have died, none of the variables are applicable, but the entry is included to facilitate linking with children’s data in other sections. If there are more than six children born in the last three/five years then only the last six are included in the health history.  See the example health history below.  Var Description  **DHS VII** Standard Recode 86 August 29, 2018  HIDXA Index to the birth history. All children born in the last years have entries in this section.  Children of multiple births each have their own entry as in the maternity history.  **BASE:** Children born in the last 5 years (B19 < 60).  **Diarrhea**  Variables H11 to H21 relate to the prevalence and treatment of diarrhea.  **BASE:** All living children born in the last five years for H11 (B19 < 60 and B5 = 1), and children having an episode of diarrhea in the last two weeks (H11 = 1 or H11 = 2) for H11B to H21.  H11 Whether the child had diarrhea in the last 24 hours or within the last two weeks. Code 1 is country specific for surveys after DHS II. Code 1 indicates that the child had been ill in the last 24 hours; code 2 indicates that the child had been ill with diarrhea in the last two weeks.  In case the question about diarrhea in the last 24 hours is used, the code 1 can be used, in this case the code 2 is used to indicate that the child had diarrhea the last two weeks but not in the last 24 hours otherwise the code 2 is for the last 2 weeks including the last 24 hours.  H11B Whether there was any blood in the stools. This question is no longer part of the DHS VII core questionnaire, but the variable is kept in the DHS VII recode.  H12A-X The place at which medical treatment or advice was sought for the last episode of diarrhea.  This question has multiple coding categories and each category is recorded separately in these variables. A few of the categories are standard (H12A, J, K, L, X). However, room  has been left for country-specific categories (H12B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S,  T, U, V, W). Any category not used in a particular country is left blank.  **Public Sector.**  H12A Government Hospital  H12B Country-specific public sector  H12C Country-specific public sector  H12D Country-specific public sector  H12E Country-specific public sector  H12F Country-specific public sector  H12G Country-specific public sector  H12H Country-specific public sector  H12I Country-specific public sector  **Medical Private Sector.**  H12J Private Hospital or Clinic  H12K Pharmacy  H12L Private Doctor  H12M Country-specific medical private sector  H12N Country-specific medical private sector  H12O Country-specific medical private sector  H12P Country-specific medical private sector  H12Q Country-specific medical private sector  H12R Country-specific medical private sector  **Other Private Sector.**  H12S Country-specific medical private sector  H12T Country-specific medical private sector  H12U Country-specific medical private sector  H12V Country-specific medical private sector  H12W Country-specific medical private sector  H12X Other  H12Y Whether no treatment or advice was sought for the diarrhea as reported by the respondent.  **\*H12Z Whether the child was taken to a medical facility for treatment of the diarrhea. This usually includes being taken to all Public Sector facilities and all Medical Private Sector facilities except for Pharmacy. This variable is a summary of these preceding variables as is used in the final reports.**  H13 Whether the child received a sugar-salt-water solution from a special packet (ORS).  H13 is coded 1 if the respondent spontaneously reported giving ORS to treat the diarrhea, and code 2 if it was reported only after probing. Code 1 is country specific for surveys after DHS-II.  H13B Given a pre-packaged ORS liquid.  H14 Whether the child was given the recommended home solution.  H14 is coded 1 if the respondent spontaneously reported giving the recommended home solution to treat the diarrhea, and code 2 if it was reported only after probing*.* Code 1 is country specific for surveys after DHS-II.  H15 Whether the child was given antibiotic pills or syrups.  H15A Whether the child was given antimotility pills or syrups.  H15B Whether the child was given an antibiotic injection.  H15C Whether the child was given an IV (Intravenous feeding).  H15D Whether the child was given home remedies or herbal medicines.  H15E Whether the child was given zinc  H15F Whether the child was given other (not antibiotic, antimotility, zinc)  H15G Whether the child was given an unknown pill or syrup  H15H Whether the child was given not antibiotic injection  H15I Whether the child was given an unknown injection  H15J-M Country-specific other treatments  H20 Whether the child received any other treatment.  H21A Whether the respondent reported that the child received no treatment.  H21 Whether the child received any treatment or whether advice or treatment was sought for the child. This is a summary of the preceding variables H12A to H12Z, H13, H14, H15 to  H15M and H20.  **Fever**  H22 Whether the child had fever in the last two weeks.  Variables H31 to H32Z relate to the prevalence and treatment of cough in the two weeks preceding the interview.  **BASE:** All living children born in the last five years for H22, H31, H31B and H34, and children suffering from fever or short rapid breaths or difficulty breathing in the last two weeks for H32A to H32Z and H37A to H37Z (H22 = 1 or H31B = 1).  H31 Whether the child had suffered from a cough in the last two weeks and whether the child had been ill with the cough in the last 24 hours. Code 1 indicates that the child had been ill in the last 24 hours*;* code 2 indicates that the child had been ill with the cough in the last two weeks. Code 1 is country specific for surveys after DHS II. In case code 1 is used, code 2 indicates that the child had cough in last two weeks but not in the last 24 hours.  H31B Whether the child had suffered from rapid breathing.  **BASE**: All living children born in the last 5 years. In previous recodes the base was restricted to children who had suffered from cough.  H31C Whether the child has a problem in the chest or a blocked or running nose.  H31D Amount offered to the child to drink. This question is no longer part of the DHS VII core questionnaire, but the variable is kept in the DHS VII recode.  H31E Amount offered to the child to eat. This question is no longer part of the DHS VII core questionnaire, but the variable is kept in the DHS VII recode.  H32A-X The place at which medical treatment or advice was sought for the last episode of fever and/or difficulty breathing. This question has multiple coding categories and each category is recorded separately in these variables. A few of the categories are standard (H32A, J, K, L, X). However, room has been left for country-specific categories (H32B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W). Any category not used in a particular country is left blank.  **Public Sector.**  H32A Government Hospital  H32B Country-specific public sector  H32C Country-specific public sector  H32D Country-specific public sector  H32E Country-specific public sector  H32F Country-specific public sector  H32G Country-specific public sector  H32H Country-specific public sector  H32I Country-specific public sector  **Medical Private Sector.**  H32J Private Hospital or Clinic  H32K Pharmacy  H32L Private Doctor  H32M Country-specific medical private sector  H32N Country-specific medical private sector  H32O Country-specific medical private sector  H32P Country-specific medical private sector  H32Q Country-specific medical private sector  H32R Country-specific medical private sector  **Other Private Sector.**  H32S Country-specific other private sector  H32T Country-specific other private sector  H32U Country-specific other private sector  H32V Country-specific other private sector  H32W Country-specific other private sector  H32X Other  H32Y Whether no treatment or advice was sought for the fever and/or cough as reported by the respondent.  H32Z Whether the child was taken to a medical facility for treatment of the fever and/or cough.  This usually includes being taken to all Public Sector facilities and all Medical Private Sector facilities except for Pharmacy. This variable is a summary of these preceding variables as is used in the final reports.  H34 Whether the respondent received or not a vitamin A dose in form of an ampoule, a capsule or  syrup in last 6 months  **BASE:** All living children born in the last five years (B19 < 60 and B5 = 1)  Treatment taken for fever or difficulty breathing  **BASE** for H37A to H37Z is children suffering from fever or short rapid breaths or difficulty breathing in the last two weeks (H22 = 1 or H31B = 1). In previous recodes the base was restricted to children with fever in the last 2 weeks (H22 = 1).  H37A SP/Fansidar  H37B Chloroquine  H37C Amodiaquine  H37D Quinine  H37DA Quinine injection/IV  H37E Combination with artemisinin  H37AA Artesunate rectal  H37AB Artesunate injection/IV  H37F Country specific antimalarial  H37G Country specific antimalarial  H37H Other antimalarial  H37I Antibiotic pills or syrup  H37J Antibiotic injection  H37K Aspirin  H37L Acetaminophen/paracetamol/panadol  H37M Ibuprofen  H37N Country specific  H37O Country specific  H37P Country specific  H37X Other  H37Y Nothing  H37Z Don't know if or what was taken  Drinking and eating pattern during diarrhea  H38 Amount offered to drink  H39 Amount offered to eat  **BASE** for H38 and H39**:** Diarrhea last two weeks (H11 = 1 or H11 = 2).  H42 Taking iron pills, sprinkles with iron or iron syrup in the last 7 days  **BASE:** All living children born in the last five years (B19 < 60 and B5 = 1)  H43 Drugs for intestinal parasites in last 6 months  **BASE:** All living children born in the last five years (B19 < 60 and B5 = 1)  **Diarrhea**  Questions pertaining to H44B, H44C and H45 are no longer part of the DHS VII core questionnaire, but the variables are kept in the DHS VII recode.  H44A Place first sought treatment for diarrhea  **BASE:** Received diarrhea treatment (H12Y = 0).  H44B Days after diarrhea sought advice or treatment  H44C Still has diarrhea  H45 Times zinc was given. This question is no longer part of the DHS VII core questionnaire, but the variable is kept in the DHS VII recode.  **Fever**  H46A Place first sought treatment for fever of difficulty breathing  H46B Days after fever sought advice or treatment. This questions is no longer part of the DHS VII core questionnaire, but the variable is kept in the DHS VII recode.  **BASE:** Children who received treatment for fever or difficulty breathing last 2 weeks (H32Y  = 0).  H47 Blood taken from child's finger/heel for testing  **BASE:** Children with a fever in the last 2 weeks (H22 = 1) | | |
|  |  |  |  |