

National Health Interview Survey
Nonsubstantive Change to

OMB No. 0920-0214
(Expires 08/31/2014)

Contact:

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National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

A1. Circumstances making the collection of information necessary

This request is for a nonsubstantive change to an approved data collection (OMB No. 0920-0214) (expires 08/31/2014), the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). On August 25, 2011, OMB approved the NHIS through the 2013 data collection, including the estimated sample size and estimated annual burden. The approved supporting statement included permission to modify selected sections of the 2012 and 2013 through a nonsubstantive change clearance request. Questions/modules cycle in and out of the survey on a periodic basis to collect new and/or updated information as needed.

Changes

This change request seeks approval to:

- Cycle out questions on complementary and alternative medicine, communication disorders, child balance, and food security fielded in 2012;
- For 2013, cycle in questions on asthma, cancer screening, epilepsy, hepatitis B/C, immunosuppression, and HIV testing.
- Implement for 2013 the results of a 5,000-case test conducted in Fall 2012 by the Questionnaire Design Research Lab (QDRL OMB 0920-0222). The QDRL test will determine whether certain questions should be administered by ACASI or by the standard CAPI protocol.

The questions to be added to the 2013 NHIS are shown in Attachment 1. A comparison of questions in the proposed 2013 questionnaire with similar questions in past surveys is shown as Attachment 2.

A2. Purpose and use of information collection

Asthma:

The asthma questions that appear in the Sample Child and Sample Adult Questionnaires for 2013 are part of the Healthy People 2020 Initiative and are sponsored by the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH, CDC) and the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI, NIH). Similar questions were on the NHIS in 2003 and 2008 and provide information on:

- The number of asthma attacks
- Visits to the emergency room

- Number of days of school/work missed
- Use of inhalers
- Asthma action plans
- Advice from health care professionals.

Cancer Screening:

The Cancer Screening supplement is sponsored by CDC's National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP). The purpose of these questions is to determine the practices and knowledge of the public with regard to cancer screening practices, such as Pap tests, mammography, PSA testing and colorectal screening, which are known to reduce mortality from cancer. Many of the questions measure Healthy People 2020 objectives; these items were last on the NHIS in 2010, as part of the Cancer Control Module.

Epilepsy:

The Sample Adult Epilepsy supplement is sponsored by the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (NCCDPHP). These questions are embedded within the Adult Conditions (ACN) module in the Sample Adult Module, and were last in the NHIS in 2010.

The purpose of the epilepsy questions is to:

- Monitor the prevalence of epilepsy in adults
- Determine whether medication is taken for epilepsy
- Find out the frequency of epileptic seizures, and whether epilepsy or its treatment interferes with work/school/social activities.

Hepatitis B/C:

Supplement questions on hepatitis screening tests are sponsored by the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP, CDC). These questions complement similar ongoing approved questions (sponsored by NCIRD, CDC) that collect information on hepatitis A and B. The new questions ask about hepatitis B and C screening tests. The CDC has recently recommended that all persons born between 1945 and 1965 be screened for hepatitis C, thus the new questions ask if the test has been administered and the main reason for test.

Immunosuppression:

These questions are sponsored by the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD, CDC). The purpose of the questions is to measure the prevalence of adults with weakened immune systems and to ask about possible reasons for their immune compromised state, i.e., from medication, chronic illness, etc. The general topic of immunosuppression has been covered in previous NHIS supplements, most recently on the 2012 Complementary and Alternative Medicine Supplement for Sample Adults.

HIV testing:

A question on HIV testing, fielded in the 2010 and earlier NHIS surveys, is proposed for inclusion again.

ACASI module:

Limited data are currently available on health disparities that involve the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual (LGB) populations. Many Healthy People 2010 objectives went unmeasured because most general health studies do not include questions on sexual identity and those that do are usually targeted to a specific health-related issue or population subgroup. A series of questions was approved for testing by OMB on June 26, 2012 (OMB 0920-0222). The main objective of the testing was to develop a standard question on sexual identity to be collected in national surveys and to test methods of data collection, including how to present the new question in the context of a series of questions.

The questions being tested and that are proposed for the 2013 NHIS include HIV testing, neighborhood characteristics, financial matters, sleep issues, as well as sexual identity. The QDRL 5,000-case test will determine whether the questions are to be fielded by ACASI or by the standard NHIS CAPI protocol. The content is consistent with the content studied in 575- and 50-case tests. Even if the final decision is that it is not necessary to use the ACASI method, the sexual identify question will still be asked in the context of the same personal and social questions. The new questions on financial burden are included to provide context on the financial burden of health care. They will be used to assist data analysis in that context.

A8. Consultation Outside the Agency

No consultation beyond those listed in previous submissions.

Attachments

1. 2013 New Questions
2. Comparison of proposed and past survey questions