

Solution to Exercise 6: Dealing with incomplete dates

Key Point(s):

- Approximating dates in a systematic way will enable you to approximate intervals e.g. between date of symptom onset and visit to the health facility.
- Do not leave it to the data entry person to enter incorrect or approximate dates.

Tasks:

- o Create an A_EX06.* triplet (using the A_EX05.* files as the starting point). The questionnaire should display all the calculated variables.
- o Try to preserve the data you have (in A_EX05.REC), accepting that you lose the information in the field REGDATE, which is easier to update than recreating the entire file.
- o Edit the A_EX06.CHK file to make the calculations. Note that you will need to define temporary variables for this task.
- o Update the data file to check the functionality

Solution

The A_EX06.QES file:

This is the questionnaire for the laboratory register

labcode	Code of the laboratory	<input type="text"/>	
idcode	Unique identifier	<input type="text"/>	
regexact	Exact registration date	<input type="text"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if any missing
regappr	Approximate registration date	<input type="text"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if year missing
regqual	Quality of registration date	<input type="text"/>	
labname	Name of the laboratory	<input type="text"/>	
serno	Laboratory serial number	<input type="text"/>	Enter 9001, 9002, ... if serial number is not unique and write data entry note (F5)
regdd	Registration day	<input type="text"/>	Enter 99 if missing
regmm	Registration month	<input type="text"/>	Enter 99 if missing
regyy	Registration year	<input type="text"/>	Enter 9999 if missing
sex	Examinee's sex	<input type="text"/>	
age	Examinee's age in years	<input type="text"/>	Enter 999 if missing
reason	Examination reason	<input type="text"/>	
res1	Result of specimen 1	<input type="text"/>	
res1sc	Result of specimen 1 scanty	<input type="text"/>	
res2	Result of specimen 2	<input type="text"/>	
res2sc	Result of specimen 2 scanty	<input type="text"/>	
res3	Result of specimen 3	<input type="text"/>	
res3sc	Result of specimen 3 scanty	<input type="text"/>	

The A_EX06.CHK file (pertinent parts only):

```

LABELBLOCK
  LABEL label_sex
    1 Female
    2 Male
    9 "Sex not recorded"
  END
  LABEL label_reason
    0 Diagnosis
    1 "Follow-up at 1 month"
    2 "Follow-up at 2 months"
    3 "Follow-up at 3 months"
    4 "Follow-up at 4 months"
    5 "Follow-up at 5 months"
    6 "Follow-up at 6 months"
    7 "Follow-up at 7 months or later"
    8 "Follow-up, month not stated"
    9 "Reason not recorded"
  END
  LABEL label_result
    0 Negative
    1 "1+ positive"
    2 "2+ positive"
    3 "3+ positive"
    4 "Positive, not quantified"
    5 "Scanty, not quantified"
    6 "Scanty, quantified"
    9 "Result not recorded"
  END
  LABEL label_scanty
    0 "Not applicable"
    1 "1 AFB per 100 OIF"
    2 "2 AFB per 100 OIF"
    3 "3 AFB per 100 OIF"
    4 "4 AFB per 100 OIF"
    5 "5 AFB per 100 OIF"
    6 "6 AFB per 100 OIF"
    7 "7 AFB per 100 OIF"
    8 "8 AFB per 100 OIF"
    9 "9 AFB per 100 OIF"
  END
END

BEFORE FILE
  DEFINE sernoTemp _____ GLOBAL
  DEFINE regddTemp ##
  DEFINE regmmTemp ##
  DEFINE regyyTemp ####
END

AFTER RECORD
  IF idcode=. THEN
    HELP "You cannot save a record without an identifier\n Please enter all
required information" TYPE=WARNING
    GOTO labname
  ENDIF
END

labcode
  NOENTER
END

idcode
  KEY 1
  NOENTER
END

regexct
  NOENTER

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```

END

regappr
  NOENTER
END

regqual
  NOENTER
END

labname
  COMMENT LEGAL a_ex05_namecode.rec SHOW
  MUSTENTER
  TYPE COMMENT labcode
END

serno
  MUSTENTER
  AFTER ENTRY
    sernoTemp=serno
    IF serno<1000 THEN
      sernoTemp="0"+serno
    ENDIF
    IF serno<100 THEN
      sernoTemp="00"+serno
    ENDIF
    IF serno<10 THEN
      sernoTemp="000"+serno
    ENDIF
  END
END

regdd
  RANGE 1 31
  LEGAL
    99
  END
  MUSTENTER
END

regmm
  RANGE 1 12
  LEGAL
    99
  END
  MUSTENTER
  REPEAT
END

regyy
  RANGE 2000 2005
  LEGAL
    9999
  END
  MUSTENTER
  REPEAT
  AFTER ENTRY
    regddTemp=regdd
    regmmTemp=regmm
    regyyTemp=regyy
    IF (regdd=99) or (regmm=99) or (regyy=9999) THEN
      regexct="01/01/1800"
    ELSE
      regexct=date(regddTemp,regmmTemp,regyyTemp)
      regappr=regexct
      regqual=3
    ENDIF
    IF regdd=99 THEN

```

```

    regddtemp=15
    regqual=2
ENDIF
IF regmm=99 THEN
    regddTemp=01
    regmmTemp=07
    regqual=1
ENDIF
IF regyy=9999 THEN
    regddTemp=01
    regmmTemp=01
    regyyTemp=1800
    regqual=0
ENDIF
regappr=date(regddTemp,regmmTemp,regyyTemp)
idcode=labcode+"-"+regyyTemp+"-"+sernoTemp
END
END

```

...

A completed A_EX06.REC record:

This is the questionnaire for the laboratory register

labcode	Code of the laboratory	<input type="text" value="MV_I"/>	
idcode	Unique identifier	<input type="text" value="MV_I-2003-0324"/>	
regexct	Exact registration date	<input type="text" value="01/01/1800"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if any missing
regappr	Approximate registration date	<input type="text" value="15/10/2003"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if year missing
regqual	Quality of registration date	<input type="text" value="2"/>	

labname	Name of the laboratory	<input type="text" value="Chikombedzi"/>	
serno	Laboratory serial number	<input type="text" value="324"/>	Enter 9001, 9002, ... if serial number is not
regdd	Registration day	<input type="text" value="99"/>	Enter 99 if missing
regmm	Registration month	<input type="text" value="10"/>	Enter 99 if missing
regyy	Registration year	<input type="text" value="2003"/>	Enter 9999 if missing
sex	Examinee's sex	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Female
age	Examinee's age in years	<input type="text" value="23"/>	Enter 999 if missing
reason	Examination reason	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Diagnosis
res1	Result of specimen 1	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Negative
res1sc	Result of specimen 1 scanty	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
res2	Result of specimen 2	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1+ positive
res2sc	Result of specimen 2 scanty	<input type="text" value="0"/>	
res3	Result of specimen 3	<input type="text" value="6"/>	Scanty, quantified
res3sc	Result of specimen 3 scanty	<input type="text" value="3"/>	3 AFB per 100 OIF