

BRHS Baseline (Q1) questionnaire

1978-80 (Q1)



Data notes and Questionnaire coding instructions protocol

Questionnaire method:	Nurse Administered questionnaire interview
Setting	Examination centre (GP practice, health centre etc)
Type of questionnaire:	Structured questionnaire with open-ended questions coded using a questionnaire coding protocol
BRHS study time point (Year of follow-up):	Baseline
Year:	1978-80
Completion dates:	Jan 1978-June 1980
Age range of sample:	40-59 years
Number of completed questionnaires:	7735
Response rate % :	78%

With a 78% response rate, a total of 7735 men aged 40–59 years (approximately 300 from each town) were recruited and examined¹. A Baseline questionnaire (Q1) administered by a nurse covered date and place of birth, medical and family history, occupation, socio-economic indices, lifestyle, chest pain, leg pain and respiratory symptoms, current medication¹.

1. Mary Walker, PH Whincup, AG Shaper, The British Regional Heart Study 1975–2004, *International Journal of Epidemiology*, Volume 33, Issue 6, December 2004, Pages 1185–1192, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyh295>

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Data notes and coding

Notes on coding inconsistencies, known errors, other data anomalies and additional response codes introduced during the coding stage are made for each affected question. Where possible recommendation on how the data can be treated is given.

Valid value ranges are those shown on the questionnaire. If additional codes are found in the data, check in the data notes below for any new categories that were introduced for a particular question during the coding process.

Coding of open-ended questions: Responses to open-ended questions were coded (given numerical codes/categorised) using a questionnaire coding instructions protocol.

General coding instructions

Responses of Yes and No

Throughout the questionnaire a “**yes**” response is coded as 1 and a “**no**” response is coded as 2.
1=Yes, 2=No

Missing values

Missing values are coded as 9s or dot(.) according to the number of digits (i.e. missing values for single digit numbers were coded as 9s, double digit numbers were coded as 99s, 999 etc). See also coding notes for individual questions OR left blank (dot on data file). See also coding notes for individual questions.

Coding instructions and data notes

Question

1.3 Marital status: Codes 5 and 7 are data entry errors. Recode to Marital status=2.

1.4 Male children under 5 years Code 8=data entry error - Recode to 0

1.4 Female children under 5 years Code 6=data entry error - Recode to 0

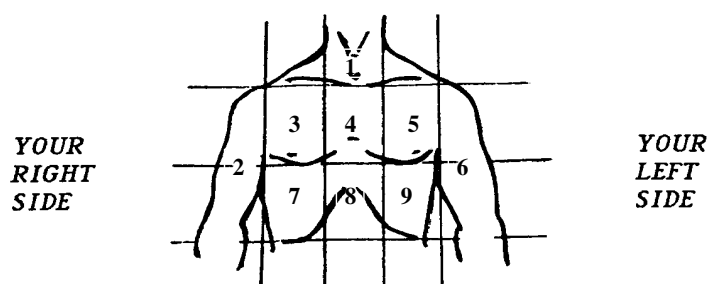
4.2 Two extra codes were added to capture those who are employed or retired. 0=Employed, 5=Retired

4.3 Codes 0 or “.”=Employed, 9=missing

Chest pain

5.2 *Where did you get this pain?*

In question 5.2, Participants are shown the diagram below and asked to indicate on the diagram where the pain or discomfort occurs. Each section on the diagram has been assigned codes 2-9. The code corresponding to the position where the pain is indicated is entered into one of 3 coding boxes. If more than 3 positions are indicated, then sections 4,5 and 8 take priority over other positions.



9.2 *Do you get pain in your calf muscle when you walk uphill or hurry?*

Note: This question was added to the questionnaire after the first three towns.

10.2 Regular treatments

In some instances, if a respondent was not on regular treatment, instead of skipping to question 10.3 as instructed on the questionnaire a code of 0 was entered for each of the listed treatments. This was an error on the part of the coder. A code of 0 can be ignored.

Coding of Social Class and Socio- Economic Grouping (SEG)

Information collected on the BRHS participants' occupation (**Questions 4.1 to 4.7**) was used to classify participants into one of the 17 **Socio-Economic Groupings (SEGs)**

SEG = Registrar General's Socio- Economic Grouping

See 'Classification of Occupations', OPCS 1971.

SEG - Socio- Economic Grouping

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SEG = Registrar General's Socio- Economic Grouping. See 'Classification of Occupations', OPCS 1971.

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(ISBN 0 11 690104 7 – CLASSIFICATIONS OF OCCUPATIONS 1970)

The Socio-economic Groups are:

- (1) Employers and managers in central and local government, industry, commerce, etc. -large establishments
- (2) Employers and managers in industry, commerce, etc. -small establishments
- (3) Professional workers – self-employed
- (4) Professional workers – employees
- (5) Intermediate non-manual workers
- (6) Junior non-manual workers
- (7) Personal service workers
- (8) Foremen and supervisors – manual
- (9) Skilled manual workers
- (10) Semi-skilled manual workers
- (11) Unskilled manual workers
- (12) Own account workers (other than professional)
- (13) Farmers – employers and managers
- (14) Farmers – own account
- (15) Agricultural workers
- (16) Members of armed forces
- (17) Occupation inadequately described

Social Class – from original coding

Information collected on the longest-held occupation (questions 4.1 to 4.7) was coded to one of the Registrar General's six social classes, using the 1970 OPCS manual for occupational classification.

Social Classes

I
II
III non-manual
IV
V
III manual

BRHS variable name	Codes/categories	
q1SocialClass_OPCS	1 = I 2 = II 3 = III Non-Manual 4 = IV 5 = V 6 = III Manual 8 = HMF Armed forces 9 = Missing	Coded referring to the longest period in a particular job - not current occupation

NOTE

There is a separate Social Class variable included in the **BRHS Baseline 1978-80 Q1 Participant profile data** where the social class categories are re-ordered. The variable is **q1sc** and is the most commonly used variable.

BRHS variable name	Codes/categories	
q1sc	1 = I 2 = II 3 = III Non-Manual 4 = III Manual 5 = IV 6 = V 8 = HMF Armed forces 9 = Missing	Coded referring to the longest period in a particular job - not current occupation

Question	Diet Questions	Codes	Code meaning
11.1	How many times during an average week would you have the following foods		
	Meat (beef, lamb, pork, bacon in any form)	max was 25 times	
	Chicken	max 10 times	
	Fish	max 11 times	
	Eggs	max was 56- !	
	Cheese or cheese dishes	max 21 times	
	Breakfast cereals including porridge.	0 to 7 8 9	= 0 to 7 times a week =8 or more times a week = don't know
11.1	<u>Breakfast cereals</u> Stated kind of cereal was coded according to: fibre content (using/according to brand name)	0= 1= 2= 3= 4= 5= 6= 7= 8= 9=	not eaten low low/ medium medium low/ high low/medium/high medium/high high don't know type doesn't know if cereal eaten
11.2	What kind of bread do you eat		
	white bread	1= 2= 3= 9=	yes predominantly not eaten not predominant type 9=not known
	brown bread	1= 2= 3= 9=	yes predominantly not eaten not predominant type 9=not known
	wholemeal bread	1= 2= 3= 9=	yes predominantly not eaten not predominant type 9=not known
	other bread	1= 2= 3= 9=	yes predominantly not eaten not predominant type 9=not known
11.3	Spreading fats: What kinds do you use at home:		
	spreading fats - butter	1= 2= 3= 9=	yes predominant over marg not eaten not predominant over marg not known
	margarine (coded from brand name)	2= 3= 4= 5= 8= 9= 0=	not eaten (check this) low P/S medium P/S high P/S type not known don't know if eaten ? (only 1 man)

Question	Diet questions /cont.		
11.4	Do you take sugar in:	Codes	Code meaning
	sugar in tea	1= 2= 3=?	Yes No ? meaning unknown Could mean sometimes? (affects 18 men)
	sugar in coffee	1= 2= 3=?	Yes No ? meaning unknown Could mean sometimes? (affects 18 men)
	sugar in other drinks	1= 2= 3=?	Yes No ? meaning unknown Could mean sometimes? (affects 18 men)
11.5	Do you use milk in:		
	milk on cereals	1= 2= 3=	Yes No Skimmed
	milk in tea	1= 2= 3=	Yes No Skimmed
	milk in coffee	1= 2= 3=	Yes No Skimmed
	milk in milk drinks	1= 2= 3=	Yes No Skimmed

	Alcohol Questions	Codes=meaning
11.6 (ii)	What type of drink to you usually take?	1= Beer 2= Spirits 3= Wine/sherry 4= Mixed beer & spirits 5= Mixed beer, spirits, wine and sherry 0=None
11.6 (iii)	How much do you usually take?	1= 2 drinks a day or less 2= 3-6 drinks a day 3= more than 6 drinks a day 0=none

Question

Physical activity questions

13.1 (i) *Do you usually walk or cycle in the course of your journeys to or from work each day?*

Available options on questionnaire were: 1=No, 2=Walk, 3=Cycle

Extra code was added: 4=Both walk and cycle

If response was "I both walk and cycle" then it was coded as 4=Both walk and cycle

13.1 (ii) *Apart from your journeys to or from work, do you usually walk or cycle on weekdays?*

Available options on questionnaire were: 1=no, 2=Walk, 3=Cycle

Extra code was added: 4=Both walk and cycle

If response was "I both walk and cycle" then it was coded as 4=Both walk and cycle