Abt Associates Inc.

The Study of Thimerosal and Autism

Documentation and Codebook for the Child Body Weights File:

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Documentation and Codebook
for the
Child Body Weights File

1. Introduction to the Child Vaccination Histories File

The Child Body Weights File contains the data that were used for the analyses reported in the Technical Report, Volume II, Chapter 18.

Section 2 of the current document shows the file formats and variable descriptions of the Child Body Weights File. Section 3 shows some example records from the Child Body Weights File with an explanation of how to interpret the variables.

2. File Formats and Variable Descriptions

The Childhood Vaccination Histories File is provided in two formats: 1) ASCII text format, and 2) SAS file. There are multiple records per ID on this data set. There are 1,095 unique ChildIDs in the data set.

Exhibit 2.1.
Variables Included in the Child Body Weights File

Variable	Type	Label	Med. Chrt.	Comp. Aut.	Notes[b]
			Source[a]		
ChildID	Num	Child ID for merging data sets			See Vol II, Chapter 18.
SortDays1	Num	Age in days (used to sort file)	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
Res_Vacdays1	Num	Resolved: Age in days at vac receipt	X	X	See Vol II, Chapter 18.
MercAmt	Num	Mercury amount (in vac receipt)	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
RecptWt1	Num	Weight at vaccine receipt (grams)	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
inVacHist	Num	=1 if record in Child Vac History File	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
Ch_WgtGrams	Num	Chart: child age in days when weight recorded	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
Ch_WgtDays1	Num	Chart: child age in days when weight recorded	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
inWts	Num	=1 record in chart weights file	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
Wgt_Observed	Num	=1 if wgt observed, =0 if wt imputed, =. if no thim containing vac recvd	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.
Wgt_Imputed	Num	=1 if wgt imputed, =0 if wt observed, =. if no thim containing vac recvd	X		See Vol II, Chapter 18.

[a] Data Source: Medical chart abstraction, or computer automated data set (VSD data).
[b] Vol II and section numbers correspond to Technical Report Volumes I (Price et al, 2009), which is included with this data set.

3. Example Records in the Child Body Weights File

Exhibit 3.1 shows some example records from the Child Body Weights File with an explanation of how to interpret the data. The first example record shows that the child's body weight was recorded in his medical chart (*ch_wgtGrams* = 3884 grams) the day he was born (*Sortdays1* = 1), and no thimerosal-containing vaccines or immune globulin preparations were received that day (*Res_VacDays1*=., and *MercAmt*=.). When the child was 4 days old (*Sortdays1* = 4), he received a vaccine containing 12.5 micrograms of mercury (*MercAmt*=12.5), but his weight was not recorded in his medical chart on that day (*ch_wgtGrams* = ., and *Wgt_Observed*=0). Therefore his weight on that day was imputed (*Wgt_Imputed*=1), as described in Volume II, Chapter 18, via linear interpolation using his weights at ages 1 day and 15 days. Body weights were also imputed for vaccines received at age 58 days. When the child was 130 days old, he received thimerosal-containing vaccines and he was weighed and his weight was recorded in his medical chart on the same day.

Exhibit 3.1. Example Records in the Child Body Weights File

Child ID	Sort Days1	Res_ Vacdays1	Merc Amt	RecptWt1	in Vac Hist	Ch_ Wgt Grams	ch_ Wgt Days1	in Wts	Wgt_ Observed	Wgt_ Imputed
1	1	.	.	.	.	3884	1	1	.	.
1	4	4	12.5	3926.43	1	.	.	.	0	1
1	15	.	.	.	.	4082	15	1	.	.
1	58	58	25	4834.69	1	.	.	.	0	1
1	58	58	25	4834.69	1	.	.	.	0	1
1	58	58	0	4834.69	1	.	.	.	.	.
1	130	130	25	6095	1	6095	130	1	1	0
1	130	130	25	6095	1	6095	130	1	1	0
1	130	130	0	6095	1	6095	130	1	.	.
1	181	.	.	.	.	6350	181	1	.	.
1	193	193	25	6861	1	6861	193	1	1	0
1	193	193	25	6861	1	6861	193	1	1	0
1	193	193	12.5	6861	1	6861	193	1	1	0
1	278	.	.	.	.	7966	278	1	.	.
1	280	280	0	7910	1	7910	280	1	.	.
1	375	375	25	9384	1	9384	375	1	1	0
1	375	375	0	9384	1	9384	375	1	.	.
1	487	487	25	10461	1	10461	487	1	1	0
1	487	487	0	10461	1	10461	487	1	.	.
1	487	487	0	10461	1	10461	487	1	.	.
1	487	487	0	10461	1	10461	487	1	.	.
1	495	.	.	.	.	10433	495	1	.	.
1	578	.	.	.	.	11141	578	1	.	.
1	767	.	.	.	.	12701	767	1	.	.