

Solution to Exercise 8: 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_EX08.* triplet* (using the *A_EX07.* files* as the starting point). The questionnaire should display all the calculated variables.
- o Create the *A_EX08.REC*
- o Edit the *A_EX08.CHK* file to make the calculations. Note that you will need to define temporary variables for this task.
- o Enter some data to check the functionality

Solution

The *A_EX08.QES* file:

This is the questionnaire for the laboratory register

labcode	Laboratory code	<input type="text"/>	
idcode	Laboratory identifier	<input type="text"/>	
regexct	Exact registration date	<input type="text"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if any unknown
regappr	Approximate registration date	<input type="text"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if year unknown
regqual	Quality of registration date	<input type="text"/>	
labname	Laboratory name	<input type="text"/>	
regdd	Day of registration	<input type="text"/>	Enter 99 if not recorded
regmm	Month of registration	<input type="text"/>	Enter 99 if not recorded
regyy	Year of registration	<input type="text"/>	Enter 9999 if not recorded
serno	Laboratory serial number	<input type="text"/>	Assign 9001,9002,... if not unique (write note (F5))
sex	Examinee's sex	<input type="text"/>	
age	Examinee's age in years	<input type="text"/>	Enter 999 if not recorded
reason	Examination reason	<input type="text"/>	
res1	Result of specimen 1	<input type="text"/>	
res2	Result of specimen 2	<input type="text"/>	
res3	Result of specimen 3	<input type="text"/>	

The *A_EX08.CHK* file (pertinent parts only):

```
LABELBLOCK
  LABEL label_sex
    1 Female
    2 Male
```

```

    9 "No sex recorded"
    END
...
...
END

BEFORE FILE
    DEFINE regddTemp ##
    DEFINE regmmTemp ##
    DEFINE regyyTemp ####
END

idcode
    NOENTER
    KEY UNIQUE 1
END

regexct
    NOENTER
END

regappr
    NOENTER
END

regqual
    NOENTER
END

labname
    COMMENT LEGAL a_ex07_namecode.rec SHOW
    MUSTENTER
    TYPE COMMENT labcode
END

labcode
    NOENTER
END

regdd
    RANGE 1 31
    LEGAL
        99
    END
    MUSTENTER
END

regmm
    RANGE 1 12
    LEGAL
        99
    END
    MUSTENTER
    REPEAT
END

regyy
    RANGE 2000 2004
    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)
END
END

serno
    MUSTENTER
    AFTER ENTRY
        idcode=labcode+"-"+regyyTemp+"-"+serno
    END
END

```

...

A completed A_EX08.REC record:

This is the questionnaire for the laboratory register

labcode	Laboratory code	<input type="text" value="MV_I"/>	
idcode	Laboratory identifier	<input type="text" value="MV_I-2003-2341"/>	
regexct	Exact registration date	<input type="text" value="01/01/1800"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if any unknown
regappr	Approximate registration date	<input type="text" value="15/11/2003"/>	Set to 01/01/1800 if year unknown
regqual	Quality of registration date	<input type="text" value="2"/>	

labname	Laboratory name	<input type="text" value="Chikombedzi"/>	
regdd	Day of registration	<input type="text" value="99"/>	Enter 99 if not recorded
regmm	Month of registration	<input type="text" value="11"/>	Enter 99 if not recorded
regyy	Year of registration	<input type="text" value="2003"/>	Enter 9999 if not recorded
serno	Laboratory serial number	<input type="text" value="2341"/>	Assign 9001,9002,... if not unique (write note (F5))
sex	Examinee's sex	<input type="text" value="1"/>	Female
age	Examinee's age in years	<input type="text" value="24"/>	Enter 999 if not recorded
reason	Examination reason	<input type="text" value="0"/>	Diagnosis
res1	Result of specimen 1	<input type="text" value="0.0"/>	Negative
res2	Result of specimen 2	<input type="text" value="1.0"/>	1+ positive
res3	Result of specimen 3	<input type="text" value="0.7"/>	Scanty, 7 AFB per 100 fields