Section MM: Adult and Maternal Mortality Module

Q. MM01: INTRODUCTORY QUESTION

Read the question slowly so the respondent will understand that you are asking her questions on ALL her brothers and sisters, that is, all children born of her *biological* mother. This includes brothers and sisters of the respondent who may have died. The response recorded in Q. MM01 must include the respondent herself.

Q. MM02: FILTER FOR NO SIBLINGS

Check the answer in MM01. If the mother of the respondent had two or more births, continue with MM03. If the respondent is the only child, go to [NEXT SECTION].

Q. MM03: NUMBER OF PREVIOUS BIRTHS

Record how many brothers and sisters from her biological mother are older than the respondent herself. By comparing the age of the respondent with that of her brothers and sisters we can verify that the table for brothers and sisters is complete.

Q. MM04: NAME OF BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Ask and record at the top of the columns the name of each brother or sister of the respondent beginning with the eldest or first-born. Do not include the respondent in a column. Indicate the respondent’s place among the siblings by drawing an X on the vertical line between siblings. When the list is complete, you will ask the questions in this section for one sibling before asking about the brother or sister in the next column. Reference the brother or sister by mentioning his/her name.

If the respondent has more than 12 brothers or sisters born of the same mother, take a second Woman Questionnaire, fill in the information on the cover page, and write CONTINUATION on the top. In this second questionnaire, re-number the column numbers in Q. MM04 to (13), (14), etc. and record the additional information about the other siblings.

Q. MM05: SEX OF BROTHER OR SISTER

Follow standard procedure.

Q. MM06: SURVIVAL STATUS OF BROTHER OR SISTER

If a brother or sister died (Q. MM06 is NO) go to Q. MM08. If the respondent does not know if the brother or sister is still alive, circle ‘8’ and go to the next column (if there are other brothers and sisters).

Q. MM07: AGE OF BROTHER OR SISTER

If the brother or sister is alive, you must record their age at their last birthday. If the respondent doesn’t know, persist by asking by how many years the brother or sister is younger or older than the respondent.

The ages of sisters who are still alive are used for calculating the years of exposure for estimating maternal mortality rates. After recording the response, go to the next column (if there are other brothers or sisters).

Q. MM08: NUMBER OF YEARS THAT HAVE PASSED SINCE THE DEATH

This question and others that follow refer only to brothers and sisters who have died. Ask how many years ago the brother/sister died. If the respondent does not know, ask her the year of death and calculate to determine the number of years. You must at least get an estimate.

Q. MM09: AGE AT DEATH

Age at the time of death is very important information. Make a maximum effort to obtain the response. This information is more important for sisters than for brothers because the age will determine which skip instruction you follow; whether to ask questions MM10-MM13 or whether to go to the next column.

Q. MM10-MM12: PREGNANT OR GIVING BIRTH WHEN DIED

These questions are asked only for sisters who died at the age of 12 or older. The objective of these questions is to detect cases of maternal mortality. Maternal mortality may happen during pregnancy, during delivery, or during the end of a pregnancy (abortion or still birth) or even during the two months after the end of a pregnancy.

Q. MM13: SISTER’S LIFETIME NUMBER OF BIRTHS

Ask the total number of births the sister had in her lifetime. Include all children who were born alive. Then proceed to ask questions for the sibling in the next column. If there are no more siblings, go to [NEXT SECTION].

**Notes for the Adult and Maternal Mortality Section:**

1. The number of columns filled must be equal to the number recorded in Q. MM01 minus 1 (that is the total number of brothers and sisters born to the respondent’s mother, minus the respondent herself).
2. Indicate the respondent’s position in the table by marking an “X” in the right place. The number of columns preceding this position must be equal to the number recorded in Q. MM03.
3. If you add Q. MM08 (number of years passed since the death) and Q. MM09 (age at death), this gives the age the brother or sister would have today if he/she were still alive. This calculation can be made to check that the brothers and sisters were recorded in the right order.
4. If in Q. MM09 (age at death), the respondent tells you she doesn’t know, persist to obtain an estimate. It is preferable to obtain an approximate age than no age at all. However, if the brother or sister died when he/she was still very young, record ‘00’ for age.
5. Compare the age of the brothers/sisters. Suppose a woman has a first child at the age of 15 and the last at the age of 47, which is an extreme case, the range between the age of the youngest brother or sister and the eldest brother/sister cannot exceed 47-15 = 32 years.

Cross check to see if the interval between brothers/sisters is very long (5 years and above). If there is a long interval between births, be sure that the respondent has not forgotten to mention a brother or sister.