

April 2012

Additional information for indicators for which EHIS is preferred (interim) source

This documentation sheet is designed to match the questionnaire of the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS) as it was used in EHIS wave I. For EHIS wave II, which is envisaged to take place in 2014, the questionnaire is being revised. Therefore, questions underlying ECHI indicators may have changed in wave II compared to wave I, with possible consequences for the adequacy of the current documentation sheet. The ECHIM Core Group recommends that the consequences of this revision, once finalized, will be processed in the documentation sheets for the affected ECHI indicators. Subsequent changes in the documentation sheets will relate to the indicators' definition and calculation.

Most of the ECHI shortlist indicators, for which EHIS data have been appointed as preferred (interim) source, have been placed in the implementation section of the 2012 version of the shortlist. This does not apply to indicators 37. General musculoskeletal pain, 38. Psychological distress and 39. Psychological well-being, however. These indicators are placed in the development section. The reason for this is that in preliminary versions of the revised EHIS questionnaire the questions underlying these indicators were removed. Hence, EHIS wave II will not result in data for these indicators.

The outcomes of the assessment of the results of EHIS wave II may have consequences for assigned status of the ECHI indicators (implementation section, work-in-progress section, development section). This relates for example to the performance of the new instruments applied in wave II for alcohol use, physical activity and mental health; if they do not perform adequately, shifting the related indicators to the work-in-progress section needs to be considered. Like the changes in definitions and calculations due to the revised questionnaire, such changes in indicator status also need to be processed in the relevant documentation sheets.

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<i>ECHIM Indicator name</i>	C) Determinants of health 54. Social support
<i>Relevant policy areas</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sustainable health care systems- Health system performance, quality of care, efficiency of care, patient safety- (Preventable) Burden of Disease (BoD)- Preventable health risks- Life style, health behaviour- Mental health
<i>Definition</i>	Proportion of individuals reporting that they have none or 1 person that they can count on if they have serious personal problems.
<i>Calculation</i>	Number of persons on whom the respondent can rely on when help is needed, as measured by EHIS question EN.4: How many people are so close to you that you can count on them if you have serious personal problem? (None / 1 or 2 / 3 to 5 / More than 5).
<i>Relevant dimensions and subgroups</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Country- Calendar year- Sex- Age group (15-64, 65+)- Socio-economic status (educational level. ISCED 3 aggregated groups: 0-2; 3+4; 5+6)
<i>Preferred data type and data source</i>	Preferred data type: HIS Preferred source: Eurostat (EHIS)
<i>Data availability</i>	BE, BG, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FR, IT, CY, LV, HU, MT, AT, PL, RO, SI, SK, CH, NO and TR conducted a first wave of EHIS between 2006 and 2010. It is noted that not in all of these countries a full scale survey was carried out; in some only specific modules were applied, in others the full questionnaire was applied in a small pilot sample. It is expected that all EU Member States will conduct EHIS in the second wave, which is planned for 2014. The results

	of the first wave are expected to be published in two stages, 11 countries in October 2010, the remaining countries in April 2011. EHIS data are available by sex, 8 age groups (15-24/25-34/35-44/45-54/55-64/65-74/75-84/85+) and ISCED groups.
<i>Data periodicity</i>	EHIS will be conducted once every 5 years. The first wave took place in 2007/2010 (with some derogations in 2006) and the second wave is planned for 2014.
<i>Rationale</i>	Social support is a protective factor in times of stress. A low level of social support is associated with ill-health (both e.g. depression and somatic diseases). It is important for public health policy to collect information on social support to enable both risk assessment and the planning of preventive interventions.
<i>Remarks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The EHIS question is derived from the Oslo Social Support-scale (OSS-3): 1) Number of people to count on, 2) Other people's interest, 3) Help from neighbours. Each question measures a different dimension. The OSS-3 can be used for each separate item as well as for the total score. Problems of low internal consistency of the scale have been reported, though. The MINDFUL project therefore recommended not using the OSS-3 as a composite scale. - According to current plans, Eurostat will probably not age-standardize EHIS data. For comparability reasons ECHIM would however prefer age-standardized data. - The above definition and calculation are based on the first version of the EHIS questionnaire, as used in the first EHIS wave (2007/2010). The EHIS questionnaire will be revised, hence adaptations to the EHIS question underlying this indicator may occur in the second wave (planned for 2014). - The legal basis for EHIS is regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work. This is an umbrella regulation. Specific implementing acts will define the details of the statistics Member States have to deliver to Eurostat. An implementing act on EHIS is expected to come into force in 2014.
<i>References</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Oslo-3 Social Support Scale (OSS-3): http://www.stakes.fi/pdf/mentalhealth/The_Oslo_3.doc - MINDFUL document "Survey indicators": http://info.stakes.fi/NR/rdonlyres/9692BBFF-EDE9-459C-96FB-64A0616564A8/0/MINDFUL_survey_indicators.pdf - EHIS standard questionnaire (version of 11/2006, used in first wave): http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_information/implement/wp/systems/docs/ev_20070315_ehis_en.pdf - EHIS 2007-2008 Methodology: Information from CIRCA : http://circa.europa.eu/Public/irc/dsis/health/library?!=/methodologiessandsdatasc/healthsinterviewsurvey/ehis_wave_1/2007-2008_methodology&vm=detailed&sb=Title - Regulation (EC) No 1338/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on Community statistics on public health and health and safety at work: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/health/documents/Regulation%20no%201338-2008%2016Dec2008%20OJL354%20p.70.pdf
<i>Work to do</i>	- Monitor EHIS/Eurostat developments