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| **Domain:** | Demographics |
| **Measure:** | Current Age |
| **Definition:** | Question to determine the respondent's current age using his/her date of birth. |
| **Purpose:** | Current age is a critical component of a respondent's demographic background. DOB/current age is essential to medical research because it captures the age at the time of the clinical visit/diagnosis. Age is related to nearly all diseases and conditions and is the strongest potential confounder of other effects on these processes. Current age is often used to stratify respondents for more valid comparison (e.g., obesity of males aged 40-45 in Mississippi). |
| **Essential PhenX Measures:** |  |
| **Related PhenX Measures:** |  |
| **Collections:** |  |
| **Keywords:** | Birthplace, Years Living in the U.S., Current Age, Age, DOB, birth date, age at date of interview, age at date of exam, age at onset, present age, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, NHANES, Demographics |

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| **Protocol Release Date:** | February 6, 2009 |
| **PhenX Protocol Name:** | Current Age |
| **Protocol Name from Source:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |
| **Description:** | The interviewer asks the respondent for his/her date of birth in MM/DD/YYYY format. If the respondent does not know his/her date of birth the interviewer asks an alternative question to determine his/her age. NOTE: The current age of the respondent can be calculated, given the date of the interview. |
| **Specific Instructions:** | The question may be asked of a proxy. Proxies are others in the household who can answer on behalf of the index person (e.g., parent, spouse) if the index person is too young, incapacitated, deceased, or cannot be located. |
| **Protocol:** | *This protocol collects information which may be considered Protected Health Information (PHI) and subject to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy rules. For more information about PHI and the HIPAA regulations, see the description at the National Institutes of Health website.*  What is your birthdate?MM/DD/YYYY;  [] 9 Don't Know [ask follow-up question];  [] 7 Refused  [Follow-up question if "don't know":] About how old are you? AGE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_;  [] 999 Don't Know  [] 7 Refused |
| **Selection Rationale:** | Age is a primary predictor of disease and the most important potential confounder in epidemiologic studies.  Age at date of interview/exam can be compared to age in future follow-up interviews/exams for longitudinal research purposes.  Vetted against several other current age questions, the NHANES question was selected because it included the DOB and a follow-up question to collect current age if respondent did not know his/her DOB. |
| **Source:** | National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), Screener Module 1, 2005-2006, Question numbers: SCQ.290 and SCQ.292  National Center for Health Statistics. National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. NHANES 2005-2006. |
| **Life Stage:** | Any age |
| **Language of source:** | English, Spanish |
| **Participant:** | Any age |
| **Personnel and Training Required:** | The interviewer must be trained to conduct personal interviews with individuals from the general population. The interviewer must be trained and found to be competent (i.e., tested by an expert) at the completion of personal interviews.\* The interviewer should be trained to prompt respondents further if a "don't know" response is provided.  \* There are multiple modes to administer this question (e.g., paper-and-pencil and computer-assisted interviews). |
| **Equipment Needs:** | While the source instrument was developed to be administered by computer, the PhenX Working Group acknowledges these questions can be administered in a noncomputerized format (i.e., paper-and-pencil instrument). Computer software is necessary to develop computer-assisted instruments. The interviewer will require a laptop computer/handheld computer to administer a computer-assisted questionnaire. |
| **Standards:** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Standard** | **Name** | **ID** | **Source** | | Common Data Element (CDE) | Birth Date | 2201154 | [CDE Browser](https://cdebrowser.nci.nih.gov/CDEBrowser/search?elementDetails=9&FirstTimer=0&PageId=ElementDetailsGroup&publicId=2201154&version=1.0) | | Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC) | Current age proto | 62293-6 | [LOINC](http://s.details.loinc.org/LOINC/62293-6.html?sections=Web) | |
| **General references:** | Public Population Project in Genomics (P3G) Data Shaper. |
| **Mode of Administration:** | Interviewer-administered question (see Supplemental Information for self-administered alternatives) |
| **Derived Variables:** | Age at onset, present age |
| **Requirements:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Requirement Category** | **Required** | | Major equipment | No | | Specialized training | No | | Specialized requirements for biospecimen collection | No | | Average time of greater than 15 minutes in an unaffected individual | No | |
| **Process and Review:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |