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| **Domain:** | Environmental Exposures |
| **Measure:** | Occupation/Occupational History |
| **Definition:** | Questions about the respondent's current occupation and longest held job. If appropriate, a complete work history is obtained. |
| **Purpose:** | Occupation relates to a person's socioeconomic status and health. Descriptive data about the name of employer, occupation, common activities, hours worked, and length of time at the job is associated with potential health risks of the occupation.  Standardized industry and occupational codes can be used to compare findings with other studies.  Longest held job and occupational history provide historical information about previous or long term occupations that may have led to injury or exposed the respondent to hazardous chemicals which could lead to chronic health conditions. |
| **Essential PhenX Measures:** | Current Age |
| **Related PhenX Measures:** | Current Employment Status Exposure at Work and in Daily Life |
| **Collections:** |  |
| **Keywords:** | Occupational history, work history, current job, occupation, Standardized Occupational Classification System, SOC, North American Industry Classification System, NAICS, Department of Commerce, US Census Bureau, Industry and Occupation Index, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, NHANES, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey Occupation Module, Study of Brain Tumors in Adults, Environmental Exposures |

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| **Protocol Release Date:** | October 30, 2009 |
| **PhenX Protocol Name:** | Occupation/Occupational History |
| **Protocol Name from Source:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |
| **Description:** | This protocol includes several questions about the respondent's current job, including the job title, industry, activities, when the job was started, hours spent working each week, and normal hours of the day worked. Occupation and industry entries are coded using the Standardized Occupational Classification System (SOC) and the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes from the U.S. Census Bureau.  The respondent is asked a number of questions about his longest held job, including name of occupation, industry, types of activities performed, and length of time worked.  As an alternative, the respondent is asked specific details about every job he/she has had for 6 months or longer since he/she was 16 years old. Information obtained about each job includes: the name of the company, job title, when the job started and stopped, address of the company, whether it was full-time, part-time, or seasonal work, type of business, main activities on the job, chemicals and materials handled, and tools and equipment used. |
| **Specific Instructions:** | Respondents are not likely to recall all of their occupations and details about those occupations. The interviewer should probe respondents to get the most accurate information possible. |
| **Protocol:** | Note: in many situations a complete occupational history is not feasible, so the current occupation and longest held job are the primary measure. A complete occupational history should be captured for investigations of chronic diseases or work-related injuries.  **(Current job(s))**  SP = sample person  1. How many hours did {you/SP} work **last week** at **all** jobs or businesses?  ">\_\_\_">\_\_\_">\_\_\_">  ENTER NUMBER OF HOURS  [ ] 77777 REFUSED  [ ] 99999 DON'T KNOW  2. {Do you/Does SP} **usually** work 35 hours or more per week in total at all jobs or businesses?  [ ] 1 YES  [ ] 2 NO  [ ] 7 REFUSED  [ ] 9 DON'T KNOW  3. For whom did {you/SP} work at {your/his/her} main job or business? (What is the name of the company, business, organization or employer?) IF MORE THAN 1 JOB, PROBE FOR **MAIN** JOB.  [ ]\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  ENTER NAME OF EMPLOYER  [ ] 7-77 REFUSED  [ ] 9-99 DON'T KNOW  4. What kind of business or industry is this? (For example: a TV or radio station, retail shoe store, state labor department, farm.)  [ ]\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  ENTER NAME OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY  [ ] 7-77 REFUSED  [ ] 9-99 DON'T KNOW  5. What kind of work {were you/was SP} doing? (For example: farming, mail clerk, computer specialist, machine operator, welder, mechanic.)  [ ]\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  ENTER NAME OF OCCUPATION  [ ] 7-77 REFUSED  [ ] 9-99 DON'T KNOW  6. What were {your/SP's} most important activities on this job? (For example: sells cars, keeps account books, operates printing press.)  [ ]\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  ENTER NAME OF DUTIES  [ ] 7-77 REFUSED  [ ] 9-99 DON'T KNOW  7. Which of the following best describes the hours {you/SP} **usually** {work/works} at {your/his/her} main job or business?  INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: IF THE RESPONDENT SAYS "FLEXTIME", ETC., PROBE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE SHIFT THAT IS WORKED ACTUALLY FALLS IN A DAY, EVENING, NIGHT, OR ROTATING SHIFT CATEGORY BEFORE CODING IT AS "ANOTHER SCHEDULE."  HELP AVAILABLE:  Standard Shift Definitions are: A regular daytime schedule: this is work anytime between 6am and 6pm.  A regular evening shift: this is work anytime between 2pm and midnight.  A regular night shift: this is work anytime between 9pm and 8am.  A rotating shift: a work shift that changes periodically from days to evenings or nights.  Another schedule includes: a split shift (consisting of two distinct work periods each day), an irregular schedule arranged by the employer, or any other schedule.  [ ] 1 A regular daytime schedule  [ ] 2 A regular evening shift  [ ] 3 A regular night shift  [ ] 4 A rotating shift  [ ] 5 Another schedule  [ ] 7 REFUSED  [ ] 9 DON'T KNOW  8. About how long {have you/has SP} worked for{EMPLOYER} as a(n) {OCCUPATION}?  ">\_\_\_">\_\_\_">\_\_\_"> ENTER NUMBER (OF DAYS, WEEKS, MONTHS OR YEARS)  [ ] 777777 REFUSED  [ ] 999999 DON'T KNOW  ENTER UNIT  [ ] 1 DAYS  [ ] 2 WEEKS  [ ] 3 MONTHS  [ ] 4 YEARS  [ ] 7 REFUSED  [ ] 9 DON'T KNOW **(Longest Held Job)**  9. Thinking of all the paid jobs {you/SP} ever had, what kind of work {were you/was s/he} doing the longest? (For example, electrical engineer, stock clerk, typist, farmer.)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ENTER OCCUPATION or  [ ] 3 ARMED FORCES (Go to 11)  [ ] 4 NEVER WORKED (END OF SECTION)  [ ] 7 REFUSED (Go to 11)  [ ] 9 DON'T KNOW (Go to 11)  10. What kind of business or industry {did you/did SP} work in for the longest period of time as a (DISPLAY LONGEST OCCUPATION)? (For example, a TV or radio station, retail shoe store, state labor department, farm, plastics manufacturer.)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ENTER DESCRIPTION FOR KIND OF BUSINESS/INDUSTRY  [ ] 7 REFUSED  [ ] 9 DON'T KNOW  11. What were {your/SP's} most important activities on this job or business? (For example: sells cars, keeps account books, operates printing press.)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ENTER NAME OF DUTIES  [ ] 7 REFUSED  [ ] 9 DON'T KNOW  12. About how long did {you/SP} work at that job or business?  ">\_\_\_">\_\_\_">\_\_\_"> ENTER NUMBER (OF DAYS, WEEKS, MONTHS OR YEARS)  [ ] 7777 REFUSED  [ ] 9999 DON'T KNOW  ENTER UNIT  [ ] 1 DAYS  [ ] 2 WEEKS  [ ] 3 MONTHS  [ ] 4 YEARS  [ ] 7 REFUSED  [ ] 9 DON'T KNOW  **(Occupational History)**  1. Now I would like to ask you some questions about (your/your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_'s) work history.  Since the age 16, did (you/your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_) ever work for six months or more? We are interested in every job, part-time or full-time, paid or unpaid, that (you/he/she) held for 6 months or longer.  [ ] 1 YES  [ ] 2 NO, HOUSEWIFE ..... (END SECTION)  [ ] 3 NO, NEVER WORKED (END SECTION)  [ ] 8 DON'T KNOW (END SECTION)  INTRO: Let's begin by listing only the employer name, job title, and years worked at each job. Also, please include any jobs held while in the military, those that (you/he/she) may have done at home, or elsewhere for extra income, and volunteer work at which (you/he/she) spent more than 5 hours per week. If (you/he/she) held more than one job at a company, we would like to talk about each job separately.  **COMPLETE OCCUPATIONAL WORKSHEET**  Now, I'll ask you questions about each of your jobs.  [INTERVIEWER: YOU MAY WANT TO READ THE FOLLOWING IF MORE THAN 5 JOBS]  (THIS SECTION ABOUT (YOUR/HER/HIS) WORK HISTORY IS VERY IMPORTANT SO IT MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT LONG. ONCE WE GET THROUGH IT, THE REST OF THE INTERVIEW GOES FAIRLY QUCKLY. IF YOU GET TIRED, WE CAN STOP AND RESUME AT ANOTHER TIME.)  ASK A-E FOR EACH JOB AND RECORD RESPONSES IN OCCUPATIONAL HISTORY CHART. USE CONTINUATION SHEETS IF NECESSARY. THEN GO BACK TO FIRST JOB AND ASK F-I.   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | JOB # | A. What was the name of the company where (you/he/she) (first/next) worked for 6 months or longer? | B. What was the job title of the (first/next) job (you/your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_) held at this company? | C. In what year did (you/he/she) start and stop working at this job? | | 01 |  |  | Start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR  End \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR | | 02 |  |  | Start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR  End \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR | | 03 |  |  | Start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR  End \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR | | 04 |  |  | Start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR  End \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR | | 05 |  |  | Start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR  End \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR | | 06 |  |  | Start \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR  End \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  YEAR |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | D. What was the location of this company? | E. Was this a full-time or part-time job? (IF UNCLEAR, ASK: Was it year-round or not?)  AFTER EACH JOB, ASK: Did (you/he/she) have any other jobs with (EMPLOYER)? IF YES, FILL OUT NEXT LINE(S) ON GRID FOR OTHER JOB(S) WITH THAT EMPLOYER BEGINNING WITH Q.2B IF NO, CONTINUE WITH NEXT EMPLOYER AT Q.2A. WHEN ALL EMPLOYERS AND JOBS ARE LISTED, CONTINUE WITH Q.1E. | | Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  City/State:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | [ ] 1 FULL-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 2 PART-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 3 FULL-TIME (SEASONAL)  [ ] 4 PART-TIME (SEASONAL) | | Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  City/State:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | [ ] 1 FULL-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 2 PART-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 3 FULL-TIME (SEASONAL)  [ ] 4 PART-TIME (SEASONAL) | | Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  City/State:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | [ ] 1 FULL-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 2 PART-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 3 FULL-TIME (SEASONAL)  [ ] 4 PART-TIME (SEASONAL) | | Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  City/State:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | [ ] 1 FULL-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 2 PART-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 3 FULL-TIME (SEASONAL)  [ ] 4 PART-TIME (SEASONAL) | | Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  City/State:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | [ ] 1 FULL-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 2 PART-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 3 FULL-TIME (SEASONAL)  [ ] 4 PART-TIME (SEASONAL) | | Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  City/State:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | [ ] 1 FULL-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 2 PART-TIME (YEAR-ROUND)  [ ] 3 FULL-TIME (SEASONAL)  [ ] 4 PART-TIME (SEASONAL) |   AFTER COMPLETING A-E FOR ALL JOBS, ASK F-I, BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST JOB. Thinking about this job . . .   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | JOB # | F. What did they make, or what service did they provide? (ENTER RESPONSE VERBATIM AND CIRCLE APPROPRIATE CODE.) What type of business was it?  MA = MANUFACTURER R = RETAILER W = WHOLESALER S = SERVICE PROVIDER C = CONSTRUCTION MI = MINING F = FARMING/ FISHING/ FORESTRY G = GOVERNMENT O = OTHER | G. What were (your/your \_\_\_\_\_'s) main activities or duties for this job? | H. What kinds of chemicals or materials did (you/he/she) handle in that job? | I. What kinds of tools and equipment did (you/he/she) use? | | 01 | What type of business was it?  [ ] MA  [ ] R  [ ] W  [ ] S  [ ] C  [ ] MI  [ ] F  [ ] G  [ ] O |  |  |  | | 02 | What type of business was it?  [ ] MA  [ ] R  [ ] W  [ ] S  [ ] C  [ ] MI  [ ] F  [ ] G  [ ] O |  |  |  | | 03 | What type of business was it?  [ ] MA  [ ] R  [ ] W  [ ] S  [ ] C  [ ] MI  [ ] F  [ ] G  [ ] O |  |  |  | | 04 | What type of business was it?  [ ] MA  [ ] R  [ ] W  [ ] S  [ ] C  [ ] MI  [ ] F  [ ] G  [ ] O |  |  |  |   BOX 1  INTERVIEWER:  WHO PROVIDED MOST OF THE RESPONSES IN THIS SECTION?  [ ] 1 SUBJECT  [ ] 2 PROXY  [ ] 3 EQUALLY  Note: the following job titles are occupations of interest for this protocol. Depending on the purpose of the study the occupations of interest will differ.  **List of the 45 job titles associated with this occupational section:**  AIRCRAFT MECHANIC BARBER OR HAIRDRESSER BUS DRIVER BARTENDER BRICK, BLOCK, AND STONE MASON BUTCHER/MEAT CUTTER CARPENTER DRY CLEANER/LAUNDERER ELECTRICIAN/REPAIRER OF TRANSFORMERS, ELECTRICAL, OR ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT  FIRE FIGHTER FISHERMAN GENERAL FARM WORKER OR FIELD CROP AND VEGETABLE WORKER GARDENER OR GROUNDSKEEPER FARMER/RANCHER GAS STATION ATTENDANT REPAIRER OF INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY JANITOR KNITTER OR WEAVER KITCHEN WORKER/DISHWASHER LABORER MACHINIST, WOODWORKER, OR METAL WORKER MAIL CARRIER MECHANIC MANAGER, EXECUTIVE, OR SUPERVISOR NURSE CONSTRUCTION, INDUSTRIAL OR MAINTENANCE PAINTER POLICE OFFICER OR DETECTIVE PACKAGING OR FILLING MACHINE OPERATOR OR TENDER AND NOT A GROCERY STORE BAGGER PRODUCTION INSPECTOR, CHECKER, OR EXAMINER SECRETARY SHOEMAKER/REPAIRER SHEET METAL WORKER STEEL WORKER TRAFFIC, SHIPPING AND RECEIVING CLERK; STOCK AND INVENTORY CLERK; FREIGHT, STOCK, AND MATERIAL MOVER; OR WORKED WITH MATERIAL MOVING EQUIPMENT DROVE A TRUCK OR TRACTOR TRAILER TEACHER TOOL AND DIE WORKER TAXICAB/LIMO DRIVER WAITER/WAITRESS WELDER, CUTTER, OR BURNER ROOFER CONCRETE INSULATE PLUMBER CABINET MAKER |
| **Selection Rationale:** | The questions about the current job capture valuable information such as the hours worked last week, shift of work, and basic information about the job that can be used as the precursor to other occupational questions.  The occupational history protocol chosen captures the respondent's entire occupational history and details about each job. Because some early life or short-term jobs may have been ones with the most exposures, the PhenX Working Group recommends a complete occupational history. |
| **Source:** | National Center for Health Statistics, Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau. Industry and Occupation Index.  National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), Occupation Module, 2005-2006. Question numbers: OCQ.180, OCQ.210, OCQ.220, OCQ.230, OCQ.240, OCQ.250, OCQ.265, OCQ.270 (Source for Questions 1 through 8 in Protocol text of Current Job) OCQ.385, OCQ. 393, OCQ 395 (Source for Questions 9 through 12 in Protocol text of Longest Held Job)  National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute. Study of Brain Tumors in Adults. Occupational History Module. 1998. Question numbers: B1 through B10. (Source for Questions 1 through 1i in Protocol text of Occupational History) |
| **Life Stage:** | Adult |
| **Language of source:** | English, Spanish |
| **Participant:** | Adult 18+ |
| **Personnel and Training Required:** | The interviewer should be familiar with job titles used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau. 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\*.  \* There are multiple modes to administer this question (e.g., pencil and paper and computer-assisted interviews). |
| **Equipment Needs:** | While the source instrument was developed to be administered by computer, the PhenX Working Group acknowledges that these questions can be administered in a non-computerized format (i.e., pencil and paper 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) | Person Occupation History Text | 2954159 | [CDE Browser](https://cdebrowser.nci.nih.gov/CDEBrowser/search?elementDetails=9&FirstTimer=0&PageId=ElementDetailsGroup&publicId=2954159&version=1.0) | | Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC) | Environ exp occupation hx proto | 62522-8 | [LOINC](http://s.details.loinc.org/LOINC/62522-8.html?sections=Web) | |
| **General references:** | MacDonald L, Cohen A, Baron S, Burchfiel C. (2009). Occupation as Socioeconomic Status or Environmental Exposure? A Survey of Practice Among Population-based Cardiovascular Studies in the United States. Am J Epidemiol. 169:1411-1421. |
| **Mode of Administration:** | Interviewer-administered questionnaire |
| **Derived Variables:** | None |
| **Requirements:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Requirement Category** | **Required** | | Major equipment | No | | Specialized training | Yes | | Specialized requirements for biospecimen collection | No | | Average time of greater than 15 minutes in an unaffected individual | Yes | |
| **Process and Review:** | The Expert Review Panel has not reviewed this measure yet. |