

Specification Guidelines for Blaise Survey Instruments

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12th International Blaise Users Conference

Riga, Latvia

June 2 - 4, 2009



Why?

- To standardize Blaise screen design, specifications for Blaise instruments, and to provide a foundation for Blaise programming

- Early days of Specifying for Blaise Instruments
 - No guidelines
 - Legacy questionnaires
 - Box and arrow questionnaires
 - Lawlessness

- Lack of Guidelines Produced
 - Inconsistent design
 - Impact on Users
 - Poor communication
 - Many programming iterations
 - Testing difficulties
 - Higher costs

- Example 1

J21. In what month and year did (you/he/she) (last) get married? (J21MO=TMONTH, J21YR=TYEARSPECCY)

J22. What was (your [husband's/wife's]/his wife's/her husband's) name? [**ACCEPT ANY NAME—DO NOT PROBE.**] (25-CHARACTER VARIABLE)

J23. INTERVIEWER CHECKPOINT (VARNAME=J23CKPT)

SEE FU LISTING--MARITAL STATUS

WIDOWED

SEPARATED, OR
MARRIED AND CYAQRTH=222

DIVORCED; MARRIAGE
ANNULLED

MARRIED,
CYAQRTH NE 222

GO TO J26

GO TO KIDS

J24. In what month and year (were you/was [he/she]) widowed? (J24MO=TMONTH; J24YR=TYEARSPECCY)

GO TO KIDS

J25. In what month and year did (your/his/her) (divorce/annulment) become final? (J25MO=TMONTH, J25YR=TYEARSPECCY)

J26. In what month and year did (you/they) stop living together? (J26MO=TMONTH, J26YR=TYEARSPECCY)

• Example 2

V10. Altogether, how many nights were you a patient in the hospital in the last year?

_____ (Number of times)

998 = Don't know

999 = Refused

➤ VALID CODES: 1-365

➤ "SOFT" CONSISTENCY CHECK: IF IWER ENTERS NUMBER GREATER THAN 60, ASKIWER TO VERIFY THE ENTRY.

➤ ANSWER TO V10 MUST NOT EXCEED ANSWER TO V7.

V11. Were the costs for your hospital stay(s) completely covered by Medicare, Medicaid, or other health insurance, partly covered by insurance, or not covered at all by insurance?

1 = Fully covered

3 = Partly covered (or covered with a copay)

5 = Not covered at all

7 = [IF VOLUNTEERED:] Costs not settled yet

8 = Don't know

9 = Refused

V12. In the last two years, have you been a patient overnight in a nursing home, convalescent home, or other long-term health care facility?

1 = Yes (Go to 13)

5 = No (Go to 19)

8 = Don't know (Go to 19)

9 = Refused (Go to 19)

- Development of SRC Blaise Standards
 - Existing documents and guidelines
 - Need to consolidate
 - Need to update
 - Proposal funded

- Example of Non-Standard Specification

Section 13: Personal Thoughts and Behaviors

Using the scale below as a guide, write in a number from 1 to 5 to indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

1	2	3	4	5
Disagree Strongly	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Agree Strongly

___ 1) Not hurting others' feelings is important to me.

___ 2) I think I could "beat" a lie detector.



- Example of New Standard Specification

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Section 13: Personal Thoughts and Behaviors (PTB)
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PTB1

Using the scale listed as a guide, select the number from 1 to 5 to indicate how much you agree with each of the following statements.

Not hurting others' feelings is important to me.

/"Not hurt others' feelings"

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Disagree strongly | 1 |
| Disagree | 2 |
| Neutral | 3 |
| Agree | 4 |
| Agree strongly | 5 |

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- Basic Specification Requirements
 - Field Name, field tag, field description
 - Question text
 - Interviewer text
 - Response categories
 - Routing/Skip instructions
 - Data type

- Other Elements
 - Fill logic
 - Edit masks
 - Signals/Checks
 - Explicit checkpoints
 - Logic for constructed variables or re-coding

- **Best Example of Use of New Standard**

HSC1_SC20

HSC1_SC20_NCS

The next questions are going to require you to think back over your entire life. Please take your time and think carefully before answering.

◆ Read the following questions slowly

Have you ever in your life had an attack of fear or panic when all of a sudden you felt very frightened, anxious, or uneasy?

/ “Had Fear or Panic Attack”

Yes	1 (GO TO HSC3_SC20_1)
No	5
DK	
RF	

Question Type: Enumerated; Range 1 and 5

- Quick Reference Guide

Provides easy access to examples of:

- How a question is specified
- How a question is programmed in Blaise
- How a question appears in the Blaise DEP
- How a question appears in MQDS

CU Standards

Yes/No with Skip Logic

B1
Do you currently use a computer, either at work, at home, or at school?

/"Currently Use a Computer"

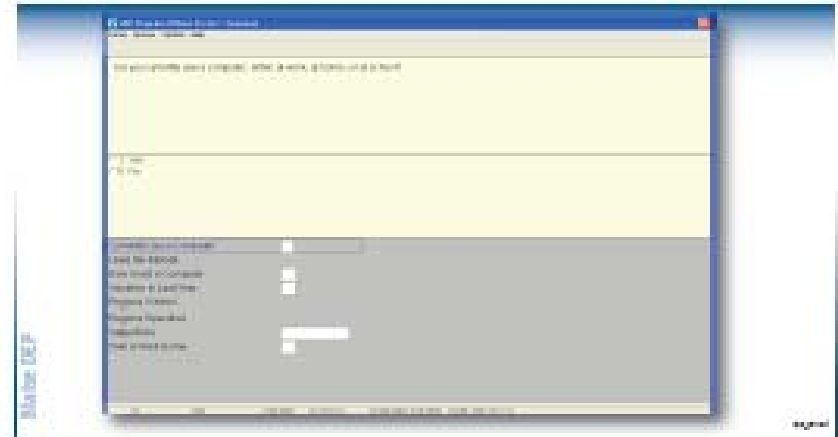
Yes	1	
No	5	GOTO B5
DE		GOTO B5
RF		GOTO B5

B2
Have you used the Internet?

/"Used the Internet"

Yes	1	GOTO B4
No	5	GOTO B4
DE		GOTO B4
RF		GOTO B4

Specification



Blaise JCF

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B1      (B1)
        "Do you currently use a computer, either at work, at home, or
        at school?" /
        "Currently Use a Computer" :
        TYesNo
    
```

TYesNo,
(Yes (1),
No (5))

Programming

SECTION_B

B1

Do you currently use a computer, either at work, at home, or at school?

1 Yes

5 No GOTO B3

Blaise JCF

- Benefits
 - Communication tool
 - Reference guide for entire survey lifecycle
 - Provides a specific guide for testers
 - Increase in instrument quality
 - Reduction in development time

- Future Implications
 - Design and carry out an experiment to test the following assumptions:
 - Reduction in development time
 - Reduction in development cost
 - Reduction in application error
 - Increase in application quality



SRC Blaise Specification Standards

Jautājumi?

Paldies