AD HOC MODULE 2007: ACCIDENTS AT WORK AND WORK-RELATED HEALTH PROBLEMS

This year’s ad hoc module includes questions referring to accidents at work and work-related health problems. They are at the end of the questionnaire; the last question from the regular part of the questionnaire for the last person for whom data are collected is followed by ad hoc module questions again for every person separately. As usual, questions referring to the ad hoc module, which will be in the questionnaire from April to June, are marked AH. Some questions do not need additional explanations, so only those that need to be explained are included here. The questions from this year’s ad hoc module should be answered by people who in the week before the survey worked at least one hour for payment, profit or family gain and those who stopped working in the last eight years.

AH1  In the last 12 months has name and family name had an accident while at work?
1. Yes
2. No

Only accidents that happened during working time are taken into account, irrespective of where they happened (on a business trip, during departure for a meeting, etc.). Accidents that happened during breaks should also be taken into account if they happened inside the building in which the person normally works. However, if the accident happened on the way to lunch, it should not be taken into account.

The following injuries should not be taken into account:
- Injuries that happened during the journey to or from work,
- Injuries that happened during free time, housework or hobbies,
- Traffic accidents that happened outside working hours.

Occupational illnesses and intentional self-injuries are also not taken into account.

Sometimes it is difficult to distinguish between an injury and an illness. If the reason for the illness is an injury, the correct answer to AH1 is yes. If e.g. a worker on a construction site gets a thorn in his hand or arm and later on the wound got seriously infected, this is an injury. If, however, a worker on a construction site has back pain due to lifting heavy loads, this is not an injury.

AH3  Was your most recent accident a:
1. Traffic accident (in the course of work)
2. Other accident

At this question only accidents that happened in the course of work should be taken into account. Traffic accidents are all types of accidents that happen to drivers, passengers, pedestrians, bicyclists, motorcyclists, forklift drivers, tractor drivers, etc., if they are traffic participants. Accidents that happen in the building or the yard or non-public areas within the factory are not traffic accidents.
The accident at work happened at your:
1. Current main job
2. Current second job
3. Job one year ago
4. Some other job

The question should be answered only by those people who in the week before the survey worked at least one hour for payment, profit or family gain and who in the last 12 months had any accident at work. The current main job is the one the person had in the week before the survey; a second job is a job the person had in addition to the main job (e.g. farm job, contract job, tutorship, etc.). If a person performed the same work a year before the survey and injured himself/herself, the correct answer is 1 - current main job.

The accident at work happened at your:
1. Last job
2. Job one year ago
3. Some other job

The question should be answered by people who did not work in the past week but injured themselves at work in the last 12 months. If the injury happened at the last job which was also the job they had a year ago, the correct answer is 1 – last job.

The most serious problem that you had was related to:
1. Neck, shoulders, arms or hands
2. Hips, legs or feet
3. Back
4. Breathing or lungs
5. Skin
6. Hearing
7. Stress or depression
8. Headache or eyestrain
9. Heart or other problems in the circulatory system
10. Infectious disease (virus, bacteria)
11. Other

If the interviewed person suffered from more than one of the mentioned illnesses, he/she should pick the one that caused the most problem. Cancer is not mentioned as a separate illness; it should be counted at the illness that is characteristic for it (e.g. for lung cancer the correct answer is 4 – breathing or lungs, for skin cancer the correct answer is 5 – skin, etc.).

The problem at work happened at your:
1. Current main job
2. Current second job
3. Job one year ago
4. Some other job
The question should be answered only by those people who in the week before
the survey worked at least one hour for payment, profit or family gain and who
in the last 12 months had any work-related physical or mental problem or
occupational illness, etc. As at question AH8, here too current main job is the
one the person had in the week before the survey; a second job is a job the
person had in addition to the main job (e.g. farm job, contract job, tutorship,
etc.). If a person performed the same work a year before the survey and injured
himself/herself, the correct answer is 1 - current main job.

AH20 The problem at work happened at your:
1. Last job
2. Job one year ago
3. Some other job

The question should be answered by people who did not work in the past week
but had in the 8 years before they stopped working any work-related physical or
mental problem, occupational illness, etc. If the problem happened at the last job
which was also the job they had a year ago, the correct answer is 1 – last job.

AH21 At your workplace are you exposed to harassment or abuse (bullying, physical
violence)?
1. Yes
2. No

AH22 Are you exposed to violence or threat of violence?
1. Yes
2. No

The issue here is harassment or (threat of) violence at the workplace,
irrespective of whether the interviewed person is harassed by colleagues or
clients, business partners or someone else.