



STEP 4.3: Integrate updated child enrollment and utilization information

➡ What is the purpose of this step?

The purpose of this step is to make sure that data for each child are as current as possible when you calculate your PHDS quality indicators and create reports of your findings for key audiences.

In this step you will:

- ☒ Identify variables that may need to be updated for each sampled child.
- ☒ Obtain and merge updated data variables into your analytic variable data set.



Guidelines and Issues to Consider

- ☒ Identify variables that may need to be updated for each sampled child.

As discussed in Steps 2.2, 2.3, and 3.2, many analytic variables are derived from enrollment and utilization data sets and are valuable for analyzing and reporting PHDS findings.

A majority of the PHDS asks the parent to respond about care provided "in the last 12 months." Therefore, you want the variables in the analytic data file to accurately describe the 12 months prior to the date when the parent responded to the survey.

Examples of common variables that need to be updated from the time of sampling include:

- ⇒ Variables related to health care utilization: There is often a lag between when a child has a visit and when it shows up in the data systems. You want to wait to update your analytic file until the data systems are updated and correct for when the parent completed the survey.

For example: If there is a three-month lag before a visit shows up in your data systems, and the survey was administered in September, then you want to wait until December to update your analytic data file with the information about health care utilization.

⇒ Variables related to enrollment: Examples of these variables include the primary care provider with whom the child is enrolled.

☒ Obtain and merge updated data variables into your analytic variable data set.

Using the child-level unique identifier specified in Step 2.3, you merge the updated data variables into your analytic variable data set. This analytic variable data set will be what you use in Step 5 of this manual.