

# RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS FORM

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#### RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS FORM (RPAB screen 2 of 5)

Do you usually bring up phlegm like this as much as twice a day, 4 or more days out of the week?	C. WHEEZING  7. Does your chest ever sound wheezy or whistling when you have a cold?YES  NO  8. Does your chest ever sound wheezy or whistling apart from colds?YES  NO  If either question 7 or 8 are answered "Yes," answer question 9; if not, go to item 10.
RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS	FORM (RPAB screen 3 of 5)
Does your chest sound wheezy or whistling most days or nights?	12. Have you required medicine or treatment for the(se) attack(s)?YES  NO  "The remaining questions still refer to the time period since your last ARIC visit."  D. BREATHLESSNESS  13. Are you disabled from walking by any condition other than heart or lung disease?YES  Go to Item 19
RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS	FORM (RPAB screen 4 of 5)
Are you troubled by shortness of breath when hurrying on the level or walking up a slight hill?	16. Do you ever have to stop for breath when walking at your own pace on the level?

#### RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS FORM (RPAB screen 5 of 5)

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## INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS FORM RPA, VERSION B, 7/25/89 PREPARED 10/19/89

#### I. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

The Respiratory Symptoms Form is completed during the interview portion of the participant clinic visit. The interviewer must be certified and should understand the document titled "General Instructions For Completing Paper Forms" prior to completing this form. ID Number, Contact Year, and Name are completed as described in that document. Items on the form enclosed in brackets are instructions to the interviewer, and are not stated verbally during the interview. Items in double quotes are read aloud. Skip rules are enclosed in boxes. When after a brief explanation doubt remains as to whether the answer should be "Yes" or "No", the answer should be recorded as "No".

The Respiratory Symptoms portion of the questionnaire has been adapted from the Epidemiology Standardization Project. Questions must be put to the subject exactly as they are printed; small changes may make unexpectedly large differences in responses. Unequivocal answers must be recorded as such, whether they seem reasonable or not. Probing questions should rarely be needed. When they have to be asked, they should depart as little as possible from the wording of the initial question, and must not be such as to suggest any particular answer to the respondent.

### II. DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS FOR RESPIRATORY QUESTIONS

#### READ INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PARTICIPANT.

"I would like to ask you some questions about respiratory symptoms you may have had since your first ARIC Visit on (\_/\_/\_). Although you may have experienced one or more of these conditions more than once in your life, we are asking you to restrict your answers to the last (3) years." (If it has been more than 3 years since the baseline exam, insert the correct number of years in the parenthesis.)

#### A. COUGH

- 1. The explanation in the [ ] is read only if the participant asks for clarification. If the response is NO, go to item 4.
- 2. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- 3. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- B. PHLEGM
- 4. Emphasis is placed upon phlegm coming up from the chest. Postnasal discharge is discounted. The following probe may be used: "Do you raise it up from your lungs, or do you merely clear it from your throat?" Some respondents admit to bringing up phlegm without reporting a cough. A positive response to phlegm with a negative response to cough is accepted without changing the replies to "cough". Phlegm coughed up from the chest counts as positive. Include, if volunteered, phlegm with first smoke or "on first going out-of-doors." A brief explanation of acceptable responses is provided in the [ ]. If the response is NO, go to item 7.

- 5. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- 6. READ THE OUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- C. WHEEZING

These questions attempt to identify respondents with occasional and/or frequent wheezing. Questions 10-12 pertain to asthma.

- 7. Participants may confuse wheezing with snoring or bubble sounds in the chest; a demonstration "wheeze" often helps if further clarification is requested.
- 8. If the response to both Items 7 and 8 is NO, go to Item 10.
- 9. Again, respondents may confuse wheezing with snoring. The following probe can be helpful: "Does your husband (or wife) regularly complain of your wheezing (not snoring) at night?"
- 10. If the response is NO, go to Item 13.
- 11. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- 12. READ THE QUESTION using the plural in the parenthesis if the participant reported more than one episode of wheezing in Item 11.
- D. BREATHLESSNESS
- 13. If the participant volunteers that he/she is disabled from walking (does not walk) by any condition other than heart or lung disease, or obviously is confined to a wheelchair, enter YES and go to Item 19.
- 14. Questions 13-18 refer to average conditions. No attempt is made to separate out cardiac breathlessness. If the response is NO, go to Item 19.
- 15. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- 16. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- 17. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- 18. READ THE QUESTION EXACTLY AS WORDED AND RECORD THE RESPONSE.
- E. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
- 19. Record the date on which the interview took place.
- 20. Record "C" if the form was completed on the computerized data entry system, or "P" if the paper form was used.
- 21. The person at the clinic who has performed the interview and completed the form must enter his/her code number in the boxes provided.