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Trip Report
Cairo, Egypt to U.S.A.
October 10, 1985 - October 26, 1985

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Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP)

NUTRITION INTAKE AND FUNCTION

931-1309

I. Objectives of the trip were

- A. to attend DAG (Data Analysis Group) meeting of the Human Nutrition CRSP held in Storrs on Friday, October 11, 1985 to Monday, October 14, 1985
- B. to follow-up on the statistical analysis strategy of the Egypt project
- C. to gain a better understanding of the data management techniques and methodologies used in the Egypt CRSP
- D. to have an overview of some of the CRSP activities conducted in the U.S.

II. Activities in Storrs

- A. Attended DAG meetings
 1. Data Management (DM) Group (Drs. Ann Coulson, Susanne Murphy, Jeffrey Backstrand and Saneya)
 2. PIs and DM meeting
 3. PIs, statisticians and DM meeting
- B. Decisions made at Storrs:
 1. In Storrs decisions were made to continue the flow of cleaned data tapes to Berkeley which needs all the data to be archived.
 2. It was agreed that field data should be checked, out of range values flagged, computer range checks be made for each variable, logical cross checks be made, and missing data indicated on tape. In addition, periodic updating about the state of data and the state of data analysis for each project should be done and sent to Berkeley.
 3. PIs will re-examine hypothesis and then prepare a list of alterations for any of the variables.
 4. More communications with Berkeley and DM persons by memos is needed.
 5. Statisticians will continue the analysis they started (toddler) but in order to do this, they need more data.
 6. Adults were chosen as priorities for the next data analysis for the SCB meeting in February 1986. Cleaned data tapes for RMR, FI and anthropometry need to be ready for the statisticians by Thanksgiving.
 7. Frequencies for each variable, in addition to range checks, are needed to help in detection of errors. (This decision was taken in Kansas.)

III. Activities in Tuscon

- A. Attended Dr. Gail's discussion on growth, how to evaluate it and assess its dynamics. I think it will be a very interesting parallel study between Egypt-Tuscon. Fluctuating growth velocities are characterized more in Tuscon children and less in Egyptian children. Special concern will be put on diarrhea and respiratory illness (episodes, days sick/well and the duration) in the CRSP data.
- B. Meeting with Roberta Hugman who is responsible for data entry and checking the unbelievable number of data for outliers was very important. The process is to enter and check the printout by the end of the day of data collection. Because of many reasons this has not happened in Egypt.
- C. There are two other studies: a) Barrett's esophagus and b) testing new formula for feeding infants instead of breast milk. A special questionnaire was used. They have some of the problems that we have in

Egypt about collection of data and they manage well with it. They paid the subjects and also write to them, follow-up, and give free formula. (In Egypt, we do not pay subjects or give incentives.)

- D. They have a wonderful library with video and audiocassette facilities.
- E. Meeting with Dr. Moore.
- F. Attending World Hunger Conference was a good chance to hear all the speakers with different ideas and researchers dealing with hunger in many different parts of the world. My impression is that the political issues play a serious role in dealing with the problem. Only one of the speakers Dr. Brian (Family and Community Medicine, University of Arizona) introduced slides for Kalama village. The discussion was about malnutrition and the role of infection in compounding malnutrition.

IV. Activities in Kansas

- A. I brought with me two tapes of CRSP data from Egypt. One was anthropometry for August 84 through March 85 and the second one was lactation and infant feeding for August 84 through March 85. Bev went through the tape and it was improved much more than before. In Kansas they ran frequencies for each variable. I saw the printout and think it is a good method that can help a lot in detecting errors.
- B. Bev and I discussed errors on the morbidity tape. Many errors still exist as possible duplicate observations. Most of the errors are in key punching. There are answers with dashes that are supposed to be a numeric value.
- C. I completed 30 household entry forms. Bev and I worked together to resolve the discrepancies between the Kansas list of CRSP households and the Egypt list. Core households (312) for CRSP study were confirmed.
- D. I resolved the sex of 24 individuals in food intake forms. I checked the CRSP infant list and it was confirmed. I checked three toddler's birth dates. I got a list with 13 schooler's birth dates to be checked in Egypt (it was checked and sent). Kansas lacks complete sociodemography forms for some core households (it was sent after I came back). I completed some of the resolution forms in Kansas and sent the others after I came back to Egypt.
- F. It was very interesting to attend the Nutri Check lecture. It is a program directed by Dr. Jerome. It gives the client a chance to know food consumption pattern, quality of food eaten, how to record accurate food intake, eating profile for a week, and helps the client to know how to change his food habits on a scientific basis.

V. Achievements

- A. Knowing the priorities for the next data analysis.
- B. We have to push data entry in Egypt in order to meet the target date and of course to produce a clean data tape.
- C. To run range checks for the activities for which we have no range checks.
- D. To run frequencies as a new method for detecting errors in addition to range checks.
- E. To deal with missing data and how to flag these or if possible to complete the data.

- F. To do some analysis (to continue what we started in January 1985).
- G. To complete data entry as soon as possible as data entry for the project should be completed by March 31, 1986.

One can evaluate the project now as to where we are in data entry-analysis. Also, what do we need to do and how can this be accomplished.

Calendar of Activities

Thursday October 10, 1985	Left Cairo for the States
Friday-Monday October 11-14, 1985	Attending DAG meeting in Storrs
Tuesday October 15, 1985	Left Storrs for Tuscon
Wednesday-Thursday October 16-17, 1985	Attended the World Hunger Conference for the general public at the University of Arizona
Friday October 18, 1985	Attended Dr. Gail Harrison's discussion about growth. Meeting with Sera and Roberta Hugman. Visited library.
Saturday October 19, 1985	Social activities
Sunday October 20, 1985	Left Tuscon for Kansas
Monday October 21, 1985	Attended Nutri Check lecture in the Department of Community Health, University of Kansas Met with Bev Beaton
Tuesday October 22, 1985	Met with Bev Beaton Met with Dr. Norge Jerome
Wednesday October 23, 1985	Met with Bev Beaton Visited library
Thursday October 24, 1985	Worked with Bev Beaton Met with Dr. Jerome
Friday October 25, 1985	Worked with Bev Beaton
Saturday October 26, 1985	Left Kansas for Egypt