

Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

12-2. Increase the proportion of adults aged 20 years and older who are aware of the early warning symptoms and signs of a heart attack and the importance of accessing rapid emergency care by calling 911.

National Data Source	National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), CDC, NCHS.
State Data Source	Not applicable.
Healthy People 2000 Objective	Not applicable.
Changes since the 2000 Publication	Revised baseline (see Comments). Revised target (see Comments).
Measure	Percent (age-adjusted -- see Comments).
Baseline (Year)	42 (2001)
Target	47
Target-Setting Method	Better than the best racial/ethnic subgroup. For a discussion on target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
Numerator	Number of persons aged 20 years and older who were aware of the early warning symptoms and signs of a heart attack and the importance of accessing rapid emergency care by calling 911.
Denominator	Number of persons aged 20 years and older.
Population Targeted	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
Questions Used to Obtain the National Baseline Data	From the 2001 National Health Interview Survey: [NUMERATOR:] <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ <i>You would say pain or discomfort in the jaw is a symptom of heart attack?;</i>➤ <i>You would say feeling weak or lightheaded is a symptom of heart attack?;</i>➤ <i>You would say chest pain or discomfort is a symptom of heart attack?;</i>➤ <i>You would say pain or discomfort in the arm or</i>

shoulder is a symptom of heart attack?;

- *You would say shortness of breath is a symptom of heart attack?;*
- *If you thought someone was having a heart attack, what is the BEST thing to do right away?;*
 - 1) *Advise them to drive to the hospital*
 - 2) *Advise them to call their physician*
 - 3) *Call 9-1-1 (or another emergency number)*
 - 4) *Call spouse or family member*
 - 5) *Other*
 - 7) *Refused*
 - 8) *Not ascertained*
 - 9) *Don't know*

Expected Periodicity

Periodic.

Comments

Persons are considered to be aware of the early warning symptoms and signs of a heart attack and the importance of calling 911 if they respond “yes” to all the symptom questions listed above in the NUMERATOR section and indicated that the best thing to do is call 9-1-1 (or another emergency number). Persons are considered to be unaware of the early warning symptoms and signs of a heart attack and the importance of calling 911 if they respond “no” or “don’t know” to any of the symptom questions listed above in the NUMERATOR section and indicated that the best thing to do is advise them to drive to the hospital, advise them to call their physician, call spouse or family member, other, or don’t know.

The original baseline was revised from 46 to 42 percent due to changes in how the response “don’t know” is handled. Previously responses of “don’t know” were excluded, but they are now included as lack of awareness. The target was proportionally adjusted from 50 percent to 47 percent to reflect the revised baseline using the original target-setting method.

Data (except those by education status) are age adjusted to the 2000 standard population using the age groups 20-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-64, and 65 years and over. Data by education status are age adjusted using the age groups 25-34, 35-44, 45-64, and 65 and over. Age-adjusted percents are weighted sums of age-specific percents. For

a discussion of age adjustment, see Part A, section 7.

For some measures, data do not meet the criteria for statistical reliability, data quality, or confidentiality and have been suppressed. Information on suppression of data for the major Healthy People 2010 data systems has been published in a *Healthy People Statistical Note*.¹

The objective moved from developmental to measurable status during the Healthy People 2010 Midcourse Review.

See Part C for a description of NHIS and Appendix A for focus area contact information.

References

1. Klein, R.J.; Proctor, S.E.; Boudreault, M.A.; Turczyn, K.M. Healthy People 2010 Criteria for Data Suppression. *Statistical Notes* No. 24. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. 2002.