

SOCIOMETRICS PROJECT No. 37

ESTABLISHMENT OF A DATA ARCHIVE ON MATERNAL DRUG ABUSE PHASE II

This Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II project, which was a follow-on to Project No. 31, developed an archive of outstanding data sets and assessment tools on the incidence, antecedents, and consequences of maternal drug abuse during the pre-, peri-, and post-natal periods. The archive was comprised of three types of machine-readable materials: outstanding data sets, measurement instruments, and search and retrieval software.

Each data set in the collection was archived using conventions standardized by Sociometrics. Each data set was accompanied by: 1) a User's Guide to the machine-readable files; 2) a raw data file made available in both ASCII or EBCDIC formats and in machine-readable media for PCs and mainframe computers; and 3) machine-readable program statements documenting the variables and values in the data file and facilitating its use with SPSS and SAS.

The archive also contained a collection of prototypical measurement instruments (e.g., scales, protocols for abstracting medical records, interview protocols). Emphasis in selection was given to measures that tapped concepts of central importance in the field and that had been shown to be valid and reliable. Preference was also given to instruments employed in the studies that were included in the Data Set Archive. Measurement instruments that were part of the public domain were included in the archive in both machine-readable and printed formats. Users were provided with a brief description and information on how to order those measurement instruments which were privately owned.

At the end of the project, the entire collection of data, instruments, and user's guides was put on a single CD-ROM. The CD-ROM contained search & retrieval software that enabled a user to retrieve portions of the data sets and measurement instruments of interest.

All of the Data Archive on Maternal Drug Abuse products are available in a variety of media (mainframe tape; tape cartridge; floppy diskette; CD-ROM) for a variety of computers (mainframes; PC microcomputer; Macintosh microcomputer; SUN workstation).

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