

[Description and quality assessment of MORGAM data](#)



General information

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For more information, please contact Matti Niemelä (matti.niemela@ktl.fi) or Kari Kuulasmaa (kari.kuulasmaa@ktl.fi)



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1. Introduction

The MORGAM Project is a multinational follow-up study of population based cohorts [1]. The Cohorts were examined at baseline and followed up for death, coronary events, stroke and thromboembolic disease by the MORGAM Participating Centres (MPC) in different countries. The recruitment of the cohorts and the follow-up procedures are described in document "[Description of MORGAM Cohorts](#)". Data from each cohort are transferred to the MORGAM Data Centre in Helsinki in a standardized format for joint analysis. The standardised data transfer formats are given in the [MORGAM Manual](#).

Although similar data collection procedures were used by the MPCs - most of the cohorts were examined as part of the WHO MONICA Project [2] - there are differences in the details of the measurement procedures and questionnaires used, and in the availability of the data items between the

MPCs. Consequently, conversion and combination of the local data items were sometimes needed to derive the standard MORGAM data items. The conversion was done locally in the MPC with advice from the MDC.

The purpose of this report is:

- to describe the data collection instruments and procedures used by the MPCs;
- to describe any conversion rules used by MPCs to derive the MORGAM data items; and
- to assess the quality of the data.

The document will be an essential pre-requisite for any data analysis of the Project.

Where applicable, the quality assessment follows the principles of the [Quality assessment reports of the WHO MONICA Project](#), although some aspects have been simplified here because less specific data were available for MORGAM. For example, external laboratory quality control, which was compulsory in MONICA, was not available for all MORGAM baseline examinations.

2. Reporting Unit Aggregates and Cohorts

According to the MORGAM Manual, the cohorts are defined as the subsets of the respondents of random survey samples on geographically defined populations, from which data are available on daily cigarette smoking, blood pressure and blood total cholesterol, but exceptions to this general rule have been accepted. A pre-requisite for inclusion of the cohort to the study is that there is a follow-up for coronary heart disease (CHD) and stroke mortality with high coverage.

The cohorts are identified by the MPC, Reporting Unit (RU), which is the smallest geographical population unit which will be identified from the study data, and the Cohort identification. There may be several cohorts in the same RU, for example corresponding to different sample surveys conducted at different times. In this report, small or adjacent RUs of many MPCs are combined to form Reporting Unit Aggregates (RUA). The RUAs and Cohorts considered in this report are specified in [Table G.1](#). The cohorts are described in document "[Description of MORGAM Cohorts](#)".

More cohorts will be added to this document as their assessment becomes completed.

3. Sources of information

The sources of data for this report are:

1. The MORGAM data on the members of the Cohorts
 - [Form 20](#) : MONICA survey data

- [Form 21](#) : Additional baseline data
 - [Form 22](#) : Coronary event data
 - [Form 23](#) : Stroke event data
 - [Form 25](#) : Follow-up data
 - [Form 26](#) : Thromboembolic event data
 - [Form 27](#) : Coronary events inventory
 - [Form 28](#) : Stroke events inventory
 - [Form 29](#) : Thromboembolic events inventory
2. Local questionnaires (original and English translation)
 3. Measurement procedures used for the Cohorts
 4. Conversion rules between local data items and MORGAM data items
 5. [MONICA quality assessment reports](#)
 6. Communication with MPCs
 7. Other relevant information

4. Acknowledgements

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References

1. *Evans A, Salomaa V, Kulathinal S, Asplund K, Cambien F, Ferrario M, Perola M, Peltonen L, Shields D, Tunstall-Pedoe H, Kuulasmaa K, for the MORGAM Project. MORGAM (an international pooling of cardiovascular cohorts). Int J Epidemiol 2005;34:21-27.*
2. *Tunstall-Pedoe H, editor. Prepared by Tunstall-Pedoe H, Kuulasmaa K, Tolonen H, Davidson M, Mendis S with 64 other contributors for The WHO MONICA Project. MONICA Monograph and Multimedia Sourcebook. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2003. ISBN 92 4 156223 4. Also available from <http://www.ktl.fi/monica/public/monograph.html>.*

Updates to this document

Date	Update
2007-07-04	First published version.

General information**Table G.1** MORGAM Reporting Unit Aggregates (RUA), Participating Centres (MPC), Reporting Units and Cohorts considered in this document

RUA	MPC	Reporting units	Cohorts
AUS-NEW _a	11 Newcastle	01, 02, 03, 04, 05	01, 02, 03
DEN-GLO _a	19 Glostrup	01	01, 02, 03, 21
FIN-ATB _a	74 ATBC	01	21
FIN-EAS _a	20 FINRISK	02, 03	01, 02, 03
FIN-EAS _b	20 FINRISK	02, 03, 07	24
FIN-WES _a	20 FINRISK	06	01, 02
FIN-WES _b	20 FINRISK	05, 06	03, 24
FRA-LIL _a	59 PRIME/Lille	01	21
FRA-STR _a	54 PRIME/Strasbourg	01	21
FRA-TOU _a	55 PRIME/Toulouse	01	21
GER-AUG _a	26 Augsburg	03	01, 02, 03
ITA-BRI _a	57 Brianza	01	01, 02, 03
ITA-FRI _a	32 Friuli	01, 02, 03, 04, 05	01, 02, 03
ITA-FSE _a	32 Friuli	06	21
ITA-PAM _a	57 Brianza	02	21
ITA-ROM _b	31 Rome	02	01
ITA-ROM _c	31 Rome	03	21, 22, 23, 24
LTU-KAU _a	45 Kaunas	01	01, 02, 03
POL-TAR _a	35 Krakow	01, 02	01, 02, 03
POL-WAR _a	36 Warsaw	01, 02	01, 02, 03
RUS-NOV _b	47 Novosibirsk	01, 03	01, 02, 03
RUS-NOV _c	47 Novosibirsk	01	21

SWE-NSWa	60 Northern Sweden	01, 02	01, 02, 03
UNK-BELa	34 PRIME/Belfast	01	21
UNK-CAEa	72 Caerphilly	01	21
UNK-EDHa	37 Scotland	02	01
UNK-GLAa	37 Scotland	01	01, 02, 03, 21
UNK-SHHa	37 Scotland	03	01
RUA	MPC	Reporting units	Cohorts

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