|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Domain:** | Social Environments |
| **Measure:** | Neighborhood Safety |
| **Definition:** | This measure is a questionnaire to assess the respondent's perceptions about safety and crime in their neighborhoods. |
| **Purpose:** | This measure is used to evaluate a respondent's feelings toward neighborhood-level crime and safety. Studies show that neighborhood safety is relevant to a range of health outcomes, such as birth weight (Morenoff, 2003). |
| **Essential PhenX Measures:** | Current Address |
| **Related PhenX Measures:** | Healthy Food Environments Neighborhood Collective Efficacy - Community Cohesion and Informal Social Control |
| **Collections:** |  |
| **Keywords:** | Social Environments, neighborhood safety, safety, violence, neighborhood, community |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Protocol Release Date:** | October 8, 2010 |
| **PhenX Protocol Name:** | Neighborhood Safety |
| **Protocol Name from Source:** | This section will be completed when reviewed by an Expert Review Panel. |
| **Description:** | The Mujahid et al. (2007) protocol includes three interviewer-administered questions with five-point, Likert-style responses. The respondent reviews the list of items and chooses the answer that best relates to his or her situation. |
| **Specific Instructions:** | None |
| **Protocol:** | **Safety**  1. I feel safe walking in my neighborhood, day or night.  [ ] 1 Strongly Agree  [ ] 2 Agree  [ ] 3 Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)  [ ] 4 Disagree  [ ] 5 Strongly Disagree  2. Violence is not a problem in my neighborhood.  [ ] 1 Strongly Agree  [ ] 2 Agree  [ ] 3 Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)  [ ] 4 Disagree  [ ] 5 Strongly Disagree  3. My neighborhood is safe from crime.  [ ] 1 Strongly Agree  [ ] 2 Agree  [ ] 3 Neutral (neither agree nor disagree)  [ ] 4 Disagree  [ ] 5 Strongly Disagree  **Scoring Instructions**  A total score can be obtained by computing the average of the three items. Lower scores indicate more neighborhood safety. |
| **Selection Rationale:** | The Mujahid et al. (2007) scale was selected for its brevity and because it taps into both feelings about safety and presence of crime. This scale has strong psychometric properties, and prior studies have shown that subjective measures of crime and disorder are correlated with their objective counterparts (Elo, Mykyta, Margoli, & Culhane, 2009). Additionally, objective crime measures (e.g., geocoded police department records, national crime statistics at the neighborhood level) are not uniformly available across the United States. |
| **Source:** | Mujahid, M. S., Diez Roux, A. V., Morenoff, J. D., & Raghunathan, T. (2007). Assessing the measurement properties of neighborhood scales: From psychometrics to ecometrics. *American Journal of Epidemiology,* *165,* 858–867. |
| **Life Stage:** | Adult |
| **Language of source:** | English, Spanish |
| **Participant:** | Adults, aged 18 years and older |
| **Personnel and Training Required:** | The interviewer must be trained to conduct personal interviews with individuals from the general population. The interviewer should be trained to prompt respondents further if a "don't know" response is provided. |
| **Equipment Needs:** | Either a paper-and-pencil or computer-assisted instrument may be used. If a computer-assisted instrument is used, computer software may be necessary to develop the instrument. The interviewer will require a laptop computer/handheld computer to administer a computer-assisted questionnaire. |
| **Standards:** | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Standard** | **Name** | **ID** | **Source** | | Common Data Element (CDE) | Social Environment Neighborhood Safety Assessment Score | 3139339 | [CDE Browser](https://cdebrowser.nci.nih.gov/CDEBrowser/search?elementDetails=9&FirstTimer=0&PageId=ElementDetailsGroup&publicId=3139339&version=1.0) | | Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes (LOINC) | Neighborhood safety proto | 63028-5 | [LOINC](http://s.details.loinc.org/LOINC/63028-5.html?sections=Web) | |
| **General references:** | Elo, I. T., Mykyta, L., Margolis, R., & Culhane, J. F. (2009). Perceptions of neighborhood disorder: The role of individual and neighborhood characteristics. *Social Science Quarterly*, 90, 1039–1422.  Morenoff, J. (2003). Neighborhood mechanisms and the spatial dynamics of birth weight. *American Journal of Sociology, 108,* 976–1017. |
| **Mode of Administration:** | Interviewer-administered questionnaire |
| **Derived Variables:** | None |
| **Requirements:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Requirement Category** | **Required** | | Major equipment | No | | Specialized training | No | | Specialized requirements for biospecimen collection | No | | Average time of greater than 15 minutes in an unaffected individual | No | |
| **Process and Review:** | This section will be completed when reviewed by an Expert Review Panel. |