



Visit 17 – Paper Towel Test Dataset

CODEBOOK

ARCHIVED DATASET 2026

Dataset file niaptt2026

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DOCUMENTATION FOR THE SWAN VISIT 17 PAPER TOWEL TEST DATASET

This dataset contains all paper towel test data for the SWAN Visit 17 cohort. This dataset has 12 variables, 1276 observations, and is sorted by ARCHID.

Who is included in the public use dataset:

The dataset contains information for the 1276 women who completed a Visit 17 Paper Towel Test form (PTT) from the seven participating SWAN clinical sites. The sites include 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17.

How this codebook is constructed:

This documentation section contains in depth explanation of the Visit 17 Paper Towel Test dataset. A list describing the variables used to create this dataset is also provided, along with the questionnaires on which the variables are based.

The Independently Self-Administered Paper Towel Test (PTT-ISA) is a measure of urinary incontinence (UI) that was administered for the first time at visit 17. The PTT-ISA objectively measures UI leakage on cough provocation and amount of that urinary leakage.

The PTT-ISA is independently self-administered. A Participant first needs to make sure her bladder is comfortably full (without urgency), then while standing, places a paper towel against the perineum and coughs hard 3 times. To score the amount of leakage, the Participant compares her own paper towel to a pictogram and chooses which of 6 pictures, ranging from “none” to “soaked” resembles her own towel. Participants recorded their responses on the data collection form and returned the completed form to the interviewer.

The assigned participant ID has been replaced with a randomly generated ARCHID in order to protect participant privacy. The baseline interview date is denoted as day 0 and is used as the basis for all other dates. Variables describing the race/ethnicity of participants (RACE) was added from the Screener dataset.

Missing data coding:

Original missing codes (-1: not applicable, -7: refused, -8: don't know, -9: missing) have been recoded to SAS missing codes (.B: not applicable, .D: refused, .C: don't know, and .A: missing).

Variables included in the dataset:

Variable	Label	Codes
ARCHID	Participant ID	
VISIT	Study Visit	“17” = Visit 17
RACE	Race/Ethnicity	1 = Black 2 = Chinese/Chinese American 3 = Japanese/Japanese American 4 = White Non-Hispanic 5 = Hispanic
AGE17	Age Rounded to Nearest 0.1	Continuous, rounded to nearest 0.1
PTTDAY17	Day of Paper Towel Test	
OUTOF17	Pt Seen Outside of Visit 17 Window	0 = Not Flagged 1 = Flagged
PAPRES17	Paper Towel Test Result	1 = Dry or nearly 2 = 1 drop 3 = A few drops 4 = 1/4 to 1/3 tsp 5 = 1/2 to 1-1/4 tsp 6 = Urine pools on towel
FULL17	Completed Test w/ Full Bladder	1 = Yes, comfortably full bladder 2 = No, bladder was less than half full 3 = No, bladder was so full I had urinary urgency
COUGH17	Leakage at Moment of Cough	1 = Yes, I leaked right when I coughed 2 = No, the leakage was delayed by a few seconds 3 = Not applicable, I did not leak
BLOSS17	Quantity of Urine Loss Bothersome	1 = Yes, this quantity is a bothersome amount 2 = No, this quantity is non-bothersome to me

Variable	Label	Codes
SURPR17	Surprised by PTT Result	1 = Yes, I leaked more than I had expected 2 = Yes, I leaked less than I had expected 3 = No, I leaked about what I had expected

DATA COLLECTION FORMS

= Variable excluded from public use datafile

~ A randomly generated ID will be provided that is different from the original ID

† This date is given in days since the initial baseline interview, which is day zero

Date Data Entered / Initials _____

Date Verified / Initials _____

INDEPENDENTLY SELF-ADMINISTERED PAPER TOWEL TEST

Study of Women's Health Across the Nation

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

AFFIX ID LABEL HERE

A1. RESPONDENT ID: **ARCHID~**

A2. SWAN STUDY VISIT #

17 **VISIT**

A3. FORM VERSION:

04/09/2021 **#FORM_V**

A4. DATE FORM COMPLETED:

 / / **COMP DAY†**
M M D D Y Y Y Y

A5. RESPONDENT'S DOB:

 / / **#DOB**
M M D D Y Y Y Y

VERIFY WITH RESPONDENT

A6. WAS THE PAPER TOWEL TEST COMPLETED? **#PAPCOMP**

NO..... 1

YES..... 2 (A7)

A6.1. IF NO (i.e. PAPER TOWEL TEST NOT DONE), SPECIFY REASON: **#PAPNOT**

PARTICIPANT REFUSED.....-7 (END)

PARTICIPANT UNABLE TO FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.....1 (END)

PARTICIPANT DID NOT HAVE TIME TO COMPLETE.....2 (END)

OTHER..... 3 (END)

IF OTHER, SPECIFY **#PAPNOTS** _____

A7. PAPER TOWEL TEST COMPLETED IN: **#LOCATION17**

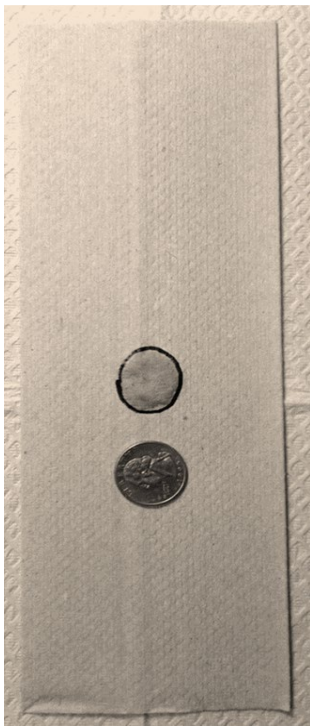
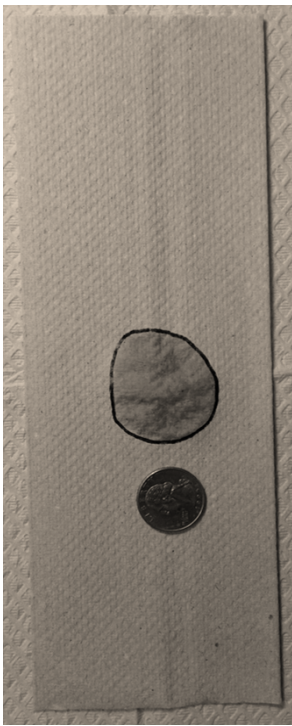
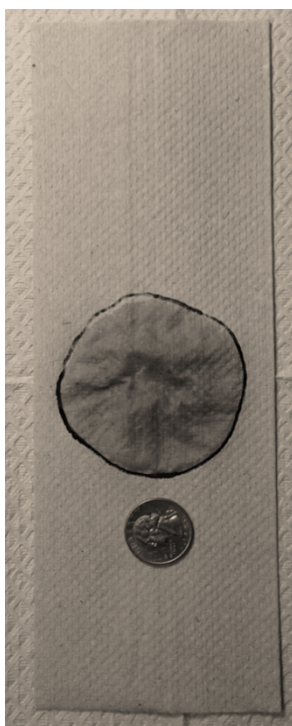
RESPONDENT'S HOME..... 1

CLINIC/OFFICE..... 2

A8. COMMENT FOR ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON PTT COMPLETION:

#COMMENT17 _____

PAPER TOWEL TEST REPORT FORM: Check the box that looks most like your paper towel test result. [PAPRES17](#)

1. ☐	2. ☐	3. ☐	4. ☐	5. ☐	6. ☐
We have placed a quarter next to the image to help you estimate the size of the leakage as viewed 5-10 seconds after the cough					
Dry or nearly	1 drop	A few drops	1/4-1/3 tsp	1/2 – 1 ¼ tsp	Urine Pools on Towel
					

- Did you complete this test with your bladder comfortably full? [FULL17](#)
 - ☐ Yes, *comfortably full bladder*
 - ☐ No, bladder was *less than half full*
 - ☐ No, bladder was so full I had *urinary urgency*
- Did leakage occur at the moment of the cough? [COUGH17](#)
 - ☐ Yes, I leaked *right when I coughed*
 - ☐ No, the leakage was *delayed by a few seconds*
 - ☐ Not applicable, *I did not leak*
- Is this quantity of urine loss bothersome to you? [BLOSS17](#)
 - ☐ Yes, this quantity is a *bothersome amount*
 - ☐ No, this quantity is *non-bothersome to me*
- Is your paper towel test result a surprise to you? [SURPR17](#)
 - ☐ Yes, I leaked *more than I had expected*
 - ☐ Yes, I leaked *less than I had expected*
 - ☐ No, I leaked about *what I had expected*