```
SPSS User Files are being provided for the convenience of analysts who
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   may wish to use SPSS to analyze the MEPS data. However, users are
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                                                                             */
    cautioned that SPSS does not currently have the capability to produce
    appropriate standard errors for estimates from a survey with a complex
                                                                             * /
                                                                             */
    sample design like the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS). The
/*
    annual national probability sample of households selected for the MEPS
                                                                             */
    is a subsample of those participating in the National Health Interview
                                                                             */
    Survey (NHIS) for the previous calendar year. The NHIS, an ongoing
                                                                             */
    general health survey of the civilian noninstitutionalized population,
                                                                             */
/*
    is conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for
                                                                             */
                                                                             */
/*
    Disease Control and Prevention. The NHIS sample design, and thus that
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/*
    of the MEPS, uses complex sampling techniques including
                                                                             */
    stratification, clustering, and differential sampling rates for the
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                                                                             */
    oversampling of selected subgroups of the population. Because of this
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    sampling structure, software that accounts for this complex sample
    design must be used. Without the use of appropriate software that
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    accounts for the complex sample design of the MEPS in conjunction with
    the survey's sampling weights (reflecting the survey's sample
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/*
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/*
    selection probabilities and nonresponse and other adjustments), the
    estimated standard errors of survey point estimates will generally be
                                                                             */
    underestimated, and, thus, the inferential conclusions in an analysis
                                                                             */
/*
    (descriptive or analytical) may be misleading. It is recommended that
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/*
    sample survey software be used to analyze the MEPS data. Software for
    analysis of complex survey data include, for example, SUDAAN (Research
                                                                             */
                                                                             * /
   Triangle Institute), STATA (Stata Corporation), VPLX (U.S. Bureau of
/*
    the Census), and WESVAR (Westat, Inc.). A more comprehensive summary
                                                                             */
                                                                             */
   of software for the analysis of data from surveys with complex sample
    designs can be accessed through the website for the American
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                                                                             */
    Statistical Association's Survey Research Methods Section. Users may
/*
    also reference the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
                                                                             */
    web document "Computing Standard Errors for Medical Expenditure Panel
                                                                             */
    Survey (MEPS) Estimates."
                                                                             */
DATA LIST FILE="H118IF2.DAT"
    DUPERSID 1-8 (A)
    RXLKIDX 9-32 (A)
    EVNTIDX 33-44 (A)
   LINKIDX 45-56 (A)
   EVENTYPE 57-57
    PANEL 58-59
VARIABLE LABEL
    DUPERSID 'PERSON ID (DUID + PID)'
    RXLKIDX 'RECORD ID: EVNTIDX + LINKIDX'
    EVNTIDX 'EVENT ID'
   LINKIDX 'ID FOR LINKAGE TO COND/OTH EVENT FILES'
    EVENTYPE 'TYPE OF EVENT RX IS LINKED TO'
    PANEL 'PANEL NUMBER' .
VALUE LABELS
    EVENTYPE
         1 '1 MVIS'
         2 '2 OPAT'
         3 '3 EROM'
         4 '4 STAZ
          '5 DVIS
          '6 OMED'
         7 '7 HVIS'
         8 '8 PMED' /
    PANEL
         12 '12 PANEL 12'
         13 '13 PANEL 13' .
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EXECUTE.