

Interview Guide RAI-Associated Gel Period: MTN-017 2-15-13

IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW ON PRODUCT ACCEPTABILITY AND ADHERENCE

TEXT IN CAPS WILL NOT BE READ TO THE PARTICIPANT. PROBES LISTED ARE TO GIVE IDEAS OF THE CONTENT THAT WILL LIKELY COME UP OR MAY BE ELICITED.

I want to thank you for taking the time to speak with me today. My name is [INSERT NAME] and I would like to talk to you about your experiences with using the rectal gel in MTN-017. This interview should take [insert length of time].

I want to remind you that everything we talk about is confidential. I will not share your answers to the study staff at [INSERT CLINIC NAME] and anything you say will not affect your participation in this study. I will record this conversation so that I do not have to take notes while we talk and I can dedicate all my attention to you. Once we finish the recording, I'll send it to a transcription center. Once I receive the transcript, I will delete the audio.

Remember, you do not have to talk about anything you do not want to and you may end the interview at any time.

Are there any questions about what I have just explained?

Are you willing to participate in this interview?

FOR RAI-ASSOCIATED GEL PERIOD

Q.0 GEL USE: What was it like to use the gel with receptive anal intercourse during the past eight weeks?

Probes:

- How did using the gel fit in with your sexual routine?
- Where were you the first time you applied it? (House? Friends? Bathroom? etc.)
- How did it go?
- How did you feel about the applicator? What was it like to use the applicator?
- What was it like to unwrap the applicator? And to assemble it?
- How did using the gel vary from the first time you used it to later on when you had more experience with it?
- How did the gel feel? (if leaked, how soon did it leak after inserting, what did that feel like, how did you deal with it?)
- Do you have a private place to store the gel applicators?
- Where did you store the unused gel applicators?
- What did you do with the used gel applicators?
- Who do you live with?
- Who knew you were using the gel?
- What was their reaction?
- Who didn't you tell that you were using the gel?
- How did you feel about the possibility of them finding out about it?

- Did you use the gel on more occasions than you were asked to by the study staff? How did that come about? What was it like?

Q.1. ADHERENCE

IF POOR ADHERENCE: Many people have trouble remembering to use the product every time they have sex.

- What challenges did you encounter with using the gel with RAI?

IF EXCELLENT ADHERENCE: You seemed to have no problems remembering to use the product every time you had sex.

- What helped you to remember to use the product before and after sex? What kinds of things did you do to remind yourself to use the product?

Q2. PROBLEMS: What problems did you have while using the gel?

Probes:

- What did you do about it? Did you call the clinic staff?
- Why did you (or did you not) feel you had to call the clinic staff about it?

Q3. OTHER RECTAL PRACTICES: Tell me about any douches, lubricants, or other products you may have used rectally that were not given to you by the study staff.

Probes:

- What was it like to use (not use) a douche during this trial?
- What was it like to use (or not use) a lubricant during this trial?
- What was it like to use (not use) other rectal products during this trial?

Q4. RECEPTIVE ANAL INTERCOURSE: One important thing is for us to understand gel use with sex, so I will ask you some questions that may seem personal- the reason is that we want to understand the context in which people are using the gel with sex so that we can take this into account when we are developing a useful product.

- You reported that you did (did not) use the gel before and after receptive anal intercourse. Tell me more about that/How did it go having receptive anal sex with the gel? [IF THE PARTICIPANT REPORTED NO GEL USE DURING INTERCOURSE, ASK HOW COME?]

Probes:

- How did it go the times that the sexual encounter was expected?
 - How soon before sex was the gel applied?
 - How did inserting the gel affect sex?
 - How easy was to remember to insert the gel before sex?
 - How easy was to remember to insert the gel after sex?
- How did it go the times that the sexual encounter was unexpected?
 - How soon before sex was the gel applied?
 - How did inserting the gel affect sex?
 - How easy was to remember to insert the gel before sex?
 - How easy was to remember to insert the gel after sex?

- How does using the gel affect the sexual encounter (spontaneity, privacy, negotiation, pleasure, partner pleasure; overall and specific incident)?
- How did having sex with the gel compare to having sex without using the gel?
- What kind of relationship do you have with the men you have used the gel with (them)? (if main partner) Is it a monogamous relationship? (if yes) Do you live together? Have you ever had sex with anyone else since you have been together? Has he?
- How long have you known each other? How long have you been in this relationship? How satisfying is your relationship? How important is your relationship with this partner (these partners) in your life?
- How did you feel about using the gel with this partner?
- What was your partner's reaction to using the gel, if he (they) knew about it?
- Where do you usually have sex?
- Did you drink or use any drugs before having sex? How typical is it for you to have sex this way? How did using the gel work (or not work) in these circumstances?
- In what ways do alcohol and drugs influence your sexual behavior? In what ways do you think alcohol or drugs would influence whether or not you use a microbicide gel, when it becomes available, before receptive anal intercourse?
- What about condoms? (Were they used with the gel? How was it?)
- How did you guys end up using (or not using) condoms?
- What about oral sex? How did using the gel affect this practice?
- What about rimming? How did using the gel affect this practice?

Q5. LIKELIHOOD OF USE IN THE FUTURE: If a gel like the one you used were found to be an effective microbicide, how likely would you be to use it every time you have receptive anal intercourse and why?

Probes:

- How does using the gel compare to using other products you have used rectally (ease or difficulty of use compared to lubricants or douches)?
- Condoms vs. gel? Your perspective/partner's comments.

Q.6 SHORT MESSAGE SYSTEM: The next few questions are about [INSERT]...

OVERALL REACTION: What was it like for you to respond to the text message system in this study?

- Where were you when you texted the system?
- What were some tools, tricks, or settings that helped you use the SMS system?

REMINDERS: You got messages daily asking you if you could text.

- How did you feel about that?
- Would you have preferred more/less messages?

TIME COMMITMENT: How did you feel about the amount of time it took to complete a whole session?

- How long do you think it took you?
- How did you feel about the time it took to receive the next text message after answering a question?
- Did the text message questions come fast enough?

INCENTIVE: What role did the incentive play in encouraging you to use the SMS system?

- How did you feel about the amount of the incentive?

PRIVACY: How did you feel about privacy while texting?

- Were you worried other people would see?
- Did you erase the questions after answering them?
- How did you feel about having a password for the system?

INTERACTION WITH RESEARCHERS: What kinds of issues, comments, or questions would you send to the study staff via SMS text message?

- How helpful was it when study staff provided you with information about SMS system changes, compensation, or system problems via text message?
- How could we improve this system in future studies?

Great. You have completed the interview. Do you have any questions for me?

Thanks again for participating in this study. Bye!

FOR USE BY STUDY STAFF:

SUMMARY:

Adherence Level	
Low	
High	
Main Adherence Challenges or Facilitators	Notes:
Likelihood of Use	
Low	
High	
Main Acceptability Factors	Notes:
Other Issues of Note	Notes: