

MTN-042 In-Depth Interview Guide

INSTRUCTIONS for the Interviewer: How to use the IDI Guide

1. Section topics are shaded in **gray**.
2. *Instructions/suggestions to interviewer are in italics and [brackets]*.
3. Not ALL questions need to be asked. It is up to your discretion if a question should be skipped if the participant has already provided a response to the question earlier in the interview. Please ensure that by the end of the interview, all the topics and key themes have been covered.
4. There are two levels of questions:
 - a. Primary interview questions: appear in **bold** text. They address the topics that you as the interviewer should ask and discuss with participants. You are not required to read them verbatim, but they are written to ensure some consistency across IDIs.
 - b. Probing topics are indicated with a bullet. If you find that the participant does not provide much information in response to the primary question, these probing topics may be used to encourage further discussion. Probes with the words “*KEY PROBE*” written before it are the most important to try to address. Depending on what has already been discussed, and the IDI context, you may or may not ask the rest of the probes.
5. Words found in (parentheses) are meant to provide wording options to interviewers to fit various situations. For example, they often provide a present or past tense verb.
6. The IDI guide is not meant to be used to take notes. Rather, you should use separate notetaking paper, where you will also include your initials, the participant’s PTID, as well as the date, start and end time of the interview.

Before starting the IDI, ensure that the participant has provided written informed consent.

<p>A. Introduction</p>
<p>[Interviewer should explain the following points – PLEASE DO NOT READ VERBATIM:]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of IDI: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Understand the participant’s attitudes about and experiences with using the study products during pregnancy ○ Understand behaviors and concerns during pregnancy that may influence acceptability of the study products • Affirm that all answers are valid: there are no right or wrong answers. • Remind participant that interview is confidential, so identifying information won’t be shared outside of the study. Participants will remain anonymous in any external publications or presentations. • Tell participant to use pseudonyms for themselves and anyone else they mention so as to preserve confidentiality. <p>Turn audio recorder on and then ask participant to confirm for audio recorder that they agree to participate in the IDI. <i>[Be sure to get a verbal confirmation before continuing.]</i></p>
<p>B. Experience with Pregnancy and Study Participation</p>
<p>1. To get us started, please tell me about your pregnancy so far.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What has been easy about your pregnancy? • What has been challenging about your pregnancy? • What are your experiences getting care and advice from others? • What medications or practices have you been encouraged to use during your pregnancy? By whom?
<p>2. What is going on in your life right now? <i>[e.g., personal life, e.g., health, money, kids, relationships, work etc.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How does the prevention of HIV fit into these other aspects of your life? • How has COVID-19 and efforts to manage the outbreak impacted your overall well-being and that of your baby?
<p>3. Let’s now talk about DELIVER: What motivated you to join this study?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> Who else was involved in your decision to join the study? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> What concerns did you have about joining the study, if any? • How has the study been going for you so far?
<p>4. Before you tried using the study product you were assigned to, what were your feelings about it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How did your feelings change <u>after</u> you started using the study product? • How would you have felt if you were assigned to <i>[the other study product]</i> instead?
<p>C. Product Acceptability, Attitudes and Use Experience</p>
<p>5. <i>[Ring Users Only]:</i> Tell me about your experience putting the ring in (or attempting to put the ring in) on your own.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How did this change as your pregnancy developed? • What do you think is preferable: inserting the ring yourself or having a nurse or doctor insert it for you?
<p>6. <i>[Ring Users Only]:</i> What are your thoughts about the ring now?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How would you describe this product to a friend? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How often do you think about the ring? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How often do you check if the ring is in place? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How does wearing the ring impact your daily activities? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> What kinds of changes have you noticed in your body while using the ring? Specifically, any vaginal changes <i>[e.g., wetness, dryness, odor, heaviness, busyness]</i>. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>(If Applicable)</i> How much of a problem were the changes for you?

<p>7. [Ring Users Only]: What challenges have you had with keeping the ring in place continuously? [e.g., removing the ring, ring expulsions, ring slipping, etc.]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has pregnancy interfered with your ring use?
<p>8. [Ring Users Only]: What has helped you keep the ring in place continuously?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What suggestions would you offer to other ring users to help them keep the ring in continuously?
<p>9. [Ring Users Only]: [If interview is <i>before</i> delivery:] Tell me about your plan to remove the ring before delivery – when and how do you imagine this will happen?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEY PROBE: What thoughts or concerns do you have about being in labor with the ring in place?
<p>10. [Ring Users Only]: [If interview is <i>after</i> delivery:] Can you tell me about your experience with ring removal before or during delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEY PROBE: How did the ring removal experience go? • What did the nurses or doctors say or do about the ring removal?
<p>11. [Pill Users Only]: What are your thoughts about the pills now?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How often do you think about the pills? • How does taking a pill every day impact your daily activities? • What kinds of changes have you noticed in your body while taking the pill, if any? [e.g., weight gain, appetite, nausea, other body changes] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How much of a problem were the changes for you?
<p>12. [Pill users only]: What challenges have you had with taking the pill every day?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has pregnancy interfered with your pill use? • Have you experienced any challenges with remembering to take the pill, swallowing the pill, storing the pills, or anything else?
<p>13. [Pill Users Only]: What has helped you take the pill every day?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What strategies would you recommend to other pill users so they can remember to take the pill every day?
<p>D. Concerns about Health and Care Seeking during Pregnancy</p>
<p>14. What thoughts do you have about the [ring/pill]'s effect on your health right now during this stage of pregnancy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEY PROBE: What thoughts do you have about how the study product may impact your future health or wellbeing?
<p>15. What thoughts do you have about the [ring/pill]'s effect on your baby's health right now?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEY PROBE: What thoughts do you have about how the study product may impact your baby's <u>future</u> health or wellbeing?
<p>16. How have you prepared for delivery (or how do you plan to prepare for delivery) and why? [If already delivered:] How did you prepare for delivery?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KEY PROBE: Are there specific foods, drinks, medicines, herbs, exercises, practices you have engaged in to prepare for delivery? • Tell me your beliefs about inserting items in the vagina during pregnancy?

E. Disclosure and Community Views
<p>17. Pregnant women differ in whether they feel comfortable talking to their partner(s) about their study product use. What does (/do) your partner(s) know about the study product, if anything?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did your partner(s) find out? • What was his/their reaction? • Did his/their feelings about the study product change over time? If so, how? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How did his/their reaction affect your study product use? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How do you think his/their reactions would be different if you were using the product while not pregnant?
<p>18. Tell me about anyone else who learned about you using the product in this study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE [If applicable]:</i> How did they learn? • What was their initial reaction? Did it change over time? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> In what ways did they impact your thoughts about or use of the study product? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How do you think their reactions would be different if you were using the product while not pregnant?
<p>19. How do people in the community view the use of HIV prevention products during pregnancy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell me about any rumors you have heard about the pills or ring. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Who spreads the rumors? ○ Have there been any rumors about pregnant women using these study products? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> Have you felt discriminated against or stigmatized during your time in this study?
F. Sexual Activity during Pregnancy
<p>20. Tell me your beliefs about having sex during pregnancy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> Has the study product changed anything about sex for you or your partner? • How did the study product affect your sexual desire and pleasure? • What about your partner’s sexual desire and pleasure?
G. Satisfaction with Product
<p>21. Given all that we've discussed, how satisfied have you been with the study product you were assigned to [ring or pills] for preventing HIV during pregnancy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> What do you like most about the study product? • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> What do you like least about the study product? • If you had been asked to choose, which of the two study products would you have preferred to use? Please tell me why. • <i>KEY PROBE:</i> How would your opinion of using this study product change at another time in your life (e.g., when not pregnant, when you are breastfeeding, or during other stages of pregnancy)?
H. Wrap Up
<p>22. You have answered all of my questions. What haven’t we covered about your experience using this study product during pregnancy? Do you have additional comments about anything else we discussed today?</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to share your opinions with me today. I truly appreciate your willingness to participate and discuss your thoughts with me.</p>