Special Case IDI

Before the IDI

[Before beginning the interview, make note of why the participant is considered a special case (seroconverter, product sharing, social harms) and which study product(s) they have used on the Qualitative Interview Checklist. Fill in the participant's PTID at the top of each page of this guide and tick the box next to each question that will be relevant for this participant. Questions to be asked of all participants are already ticked.]

Introduction

[Bullet points below to be explained in the facilitator's own words]

- Thank participant for her contribution
- Inform participant that there are no right or wrong answers
- Ask participant to share openly so we can understand her life and her experience in the study
- Let participant know it is ok to bring up topics that weren't asked about
- Describe to participant that the interview is confidential – means personal information won't be shared outside of the study

Section 1: Social context
Purpose: Understand the participant's life so that discussion and probing throughout the interview can be tailored to each individual. Interviewer should use this section to build rapport with the participant and show that they are interested in what it is like to be a young woman in her community.

☑ **1.** Please tell me what a typical week-day is like.
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *what a typical weekend day is like*
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *Social actors: who is important in her life, who does she spend time with (male partners, friends, family members, teachers, etc.)*
- *Probe for specifics on how time is spent: chores, work, school, fun/social activities, family commitments, other activities.*
- *Whether she makes money and how*

☑ **2.** What motivated you to join the REACH study?
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *how participant heard about the REACH study*
- *Events that took place from the time she first heard about REACH to the time she joined*
- *What interested her about the REACH study*
  - *Incentives*
- *Influence of others on decision to join*
  - *Encouraged by someone in life (probe who?)*
  - *Not wanting to disappoint the study team*
  - *Peer pressure*
  - *Altruism/contribute to research*

☑ **3.** If you were to tell your friend what it is like to be in the REACH study, what would you tell her about your experience so far?
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *Effects of study on daily life for participant*
- *Experiences during study visits/at the clinic*
  - *Likes and dislikes about clinic visits*
  - *Experiences with staff*
- *Engagement activities*
- *What people in the community think about the REACH study*

Section 2: Product acceptability, attitudes, and use experience
Purpose: In-depth exploration of the participant's experience with products and how product usage interacts with her daily life.

[ONLY if the participant's most recently used product are the tablets: use questions 4-8.]

☐ **4.** Can you share your experience so far with taking the tablets?
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *Side effects experienced*
- ***KE PROBE:*** *Side effects she heard about*
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *Other effects of the tablets on life: e.g. experience of social harms and/or social benefits*
- *General likes and reasons*
- *General dislikes or concerns and reasons*
- *Who knows about her taking the tablets and how they found out*
- *Ability to use tablets privately in relationships*
- *Anything that changed after starting to take the tablets*
- *Issues with product storage, packaging, or noise of tablets*
- *Thoughts about taking tablets during travel, partying, or alcohol use*

☐ **5.** What do people in your community say about the tablets for HIV prevention?
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *How the story/rumor made her feel*
- *From whom/when/where she heard these stories*
- *Probe for stories/rumors from boys, girlfriends, parents*
- *Probe for good and bad stories about tablets*

☐ **6.** Some people have problems taking daily tablets. Tell me of a specific time you had a challenge with taking your tablets.
- *Details of the situation (timing, circumstances, emotions, frequency)*
- *Challenges with swallowing or vomiting because of the tablets*
- *Challenges related to family, friends*
- *If challenge was resolved, how*
- *[Use VP #1]*
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *Explore instances of family/household/partner/friend problems that make her miss doses*
- *If anyone else used participant(s) tablets*
    - *At home, partner, friends*

☐ **7.** What are some things that made it easier for you to take the tablets daily?
- *Support provided by the study (SMS, check-ins, peer support, counseling, carry cases, etc.)*
- *Privacy, space, adequate storage*
- *Daily routine that promotes adherence [Use VP #2]*

☐ **8.** Is there anyone who has supported or helped you take your tablets?
- ***KEY PROBE:*** *Details of family/household/partner/friend actions that help with taking tablets on time*
- *[**For minors ages 16-17 only**]: Share any issues with disclosure (given the need for parent/guardian consent)*
    - *Thoughts about need for parent/guardian consent*
    - *Description of what it was like to have the parent/guardian present during the consent process*
    - *How parents/guardians show their support or lack of support*

	[ONLY if the participant's most recently used product is the ring: use questions 9-12.]
☐	**9.** Can you share your experiences with using the ring? - ***KEY PROBE****: Side effects experienced or heard about* - ***KEY PROBE*****:** *Other effects of the ring on life: e.g. social harms and/or social benefits* - *General likes and reasons* - *General dislikes or concerns and reasons* - *Once inserted, how the ring felt in her body (every day, during sex or menses, changes in vaginal wetness/dryness)* - *Who knows about her ring use and how they found out* - *Ability to use the ring privately in relationships* - *Thoughts about using the ring during travel, partying, menses, or alcohol use* - *If ever experienced expulsion/removal and did not immediately reinsert: where removed ring was stored*
☐	**10.** What do people in your community say about a ring for HIV prevention? - ***KEY PROBE:*** *How the story/rumor made her feel* - *From whom/when/where she heard these stories* - *Probe for stories/rumors from boys, girlfriends, parents* - *Probe for good and bad stories about the ring*
☐	**11.** Some people have problems with using a monthly ring. Tell me of a specific time when you had a challenge with the ring. - *Details of the situation (timing, circumstances, emotions, frequency)* - *Challenges related to family, friends* - *What she did with ring after it came out/was removed* - *If challenge was resolved, how* - *[Use VP #1]* - ***KEY PROBE:*** *Explore instances of family/household/partner/friend problems that make her remove her ring* - *If anyone else used her rings* o *At home, friends*

☐	**12.** Is there anyone who has supported you or helped you use your ring throughout the month?
	- ***KEY PROBE:*** *Details of family/household/partner/friend actions that help with using the ring throughout the month*
	- ***[For minors ages 16-17 only****]: Share any issues with disclosure (given the need for parental/guardian consent)*
	  o *Thoughts about need for parent/guardian consent*
	  o *How parents/guardians show their support or lack of support*

	[ONLY if participant has used both REACH products (e.g. has completed visit 11): use question 13]
☐	**13.** Now that you have tried each product (tablets and ring), tell me what you think of each. - ***KEY PROBE*****:** *How do the two products compare?* - *Ring: main reason for liking/disliking* - *Tablets: main reason for liking/disliking* - *Any changes in opinion of either product after trying both*

Section 3: Special circumstances **Purpose: In-depth exploration of the participant's experiences that resulted in selection for a Special Case IDI**	
[ONLY If participant seroconverted in REACH: use question 14]	
☐	**14**. If it's okay with you, I'd like to talk about your HIV status [or changing from being HIV negative to positive]. In your view, what may have contributed to you getting HIV? - *Discuss any particular time or event where participant thinks she may have gotten HIV* - *Discuss any recent changes in personal life, product adherence, behaviors or circumstances* - *Potential source of infection* - *Perceived role of the REACH study participation on risk of HIV* - *Perceived effects (beneficial and adverse) of the ring and/or tablets (especially related to HIV risk)*
[ONLY for participants who have experienced social harms: use question 15]	

☐	**15.** At a recent visit, you reported that you had a negative experience as a result of your REACH study participation or study product use. Can you please tell me what happened? [*Probe about specific SH if needed]*
	- *Perceived causes of the incident*
	- *How she responded*
	- *How person committing social harm responded*
	- *Worries about future harm*
	- *Any other similar incidents not reported to study staff*
	- *If social harm is related to violence/abuse from partner:*
	  o *Previous occurrences of violence/abuse from partner*
	  o *Whether previous occurrences were REACH study-related*
	  o *Effect of study participation on relationship with partner*
	- *How staff helped address the social harm, what else could have been done*

[ONLY for participants who reported product diversion: use questions 16-17]	
☐	**16.** We've heard that sometimes other people are interested in the ring and the tablets that REACH study participants use. Can you tell me about the times when others have used your rings or tablets from REACH? - *If others have used products, discuss how it happened* - *With whom she shared the ring(s)/tablets* - *What made her share the ring(s)/tablets* - *Explore if she shared on purpose or someone took ring/tablets* - *What happened to the ring (e.g. did she collect ring back to turn in or let the person keep)* - *If no one else used products, discuss if participant has heard about it happening with other participants*
☐	**17.** Did you save any rings/tablets for the future? - ***[If yes]:*** *why?* - ***[If no]:*** *have you heard of other participants saving rings/tablets?* - *For whom did she save the ring(s) or tablets (herself, friends, family)* - *What made her stockpile the ring or tablets* - *What happened to the rings or tablets (e.g. has she used them, shared them with others, still has them)* - *If still has them, explore what she plans to do with them*
Section 4: Closing	
☑	• *Ask if participant has any additional questions or comments (about products, study, or IDI)* • *Ask if there is anything that came up in the IDI that the participant would like to discuss further with a counselor* • *Thank participant for her time and the discussion* • *[After the interview, scan the marked-up guide and send to RTI. File the guide in the PTID file after the interview.]*