

[Introductory Statement]: Hello, my name is [*Interviewer's name*] and I'll be your interviewer today. I want to begin by thanking you for taking the time to talk with me. Your experience and thoughts about the study are very valuable to future research so we really appreciate you taking the time to complete this interview today.

Everything we discuss will be kept confidential. Audio from our session will be recorded and transcribed, but key identifiable information—such as names or places—will be made anonymous to protect your privacy. Any question you would rather not answer let me know and we can skip it. In total the interview should last about an hour. Do you have any questions before we get started?

Do I have your permission to audio record today's interview?

My first few questions ask how you feel about the study broadly, but before we get into that I just want to stress that we're looking for feedback, whether it be good or bad. We really want to know what you think, so please don't hold back with your responses and answer as honestly as possible.

Interviewer instruction: Summarize participant responses on summary sheet.

Note: Beige sections (3.8-3.10) will only be asked of participants who report having vaginal sex with the ring in during the course of the study.

<u>Section</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Prompt</u>	<u>Probe</u>	<u>Notes</u>
1. General Study Experiences	1.0 General experience and motivation for participating in the study.	Overall, how would you describe your experience participating in the study?	a) What made you want to participate? b) What are some of the reasons why you stayed in the study? c) How was your experience with the clinic staff?	Interviewer: Refer to Baseline Behavioral Survey J1 and probe appropriately.
[Transition]: Now I want to switch gears and talk about your experiences wearing the ring and any problems you have experienced.				
2. Ring Adherence & Problems	2.1 Feelings toward having to keep the ring in at all times.	During the study you reported that you [<i>preferred wearing it every day, preferred not wearing it every day, or you didn't have a preference</i>]. What made you [<i>prefer wearing it every day, prefer not wearing it every day, not have a preference</i>]?	a) Which strategy—using the ring on and off, or using it continuously -- do you think is more realistic for most women? b) Throughout the study, you answered differently about	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section C Question C2. If there are different answers across surveys, use probe B.

		how often you liked to wear the ring. What events or experiences influenced your different answers?	
2.2 Experiences when the ring completely came out.	Over the course of the study you said that the ring completely came out of your vagina on its own [<i>once or however many times</i>]. What do you think are the reasons why that happened? [<i>Bring up any situational factors reported in B3 or positional factors reported in B4</i>]	a) What, if anything, about the ring made it easier or more difficult for it to come out on its own?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section B Questions B2, B3, and B4. If B2 is “0” across all the surveys then <i>skip</i> this question.
2.3 Experiences when the ring partially came out.	Over the course of the study you said the ring slipped partially but not entirely out of your vagina on its own [<i>once or however many times</i>]. What do you think are the reasons why that happened? [<i>Bring up any situational factors reported in B8 or positional factors reported in B9</i>]	a) What, if anything, about the ring made it easier or more difficult for the ring to slip partially out of place on its own?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section B Questions B7, B8, and B9. If B7 is “0” across all the surveys then <i>skip</i> this question.
2.4 Experiences when the ring was removed.	Over the course of the study you reported the ring was removed from your vagina [<i>once or however many times</i>]. Tell me about [that or those] time(s).	a) Tell me about who removed the ring. b) What else was going on at [that or those] time(s)?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section B Questions B13 and B14. If B13 is “0” across all the surveys or if B14 is “a staff member took it out” across all surveys then <i>skip</i> this question.
2.5 Experienced factors hindering ring adherence.	You mentioned that [<i>B17 (1-29) or whatever is written in (30)</i>] prevented you from wearing the ring at all times. Tell me more about that. <i>OR</i>	a) Describe situations when [<i>that or those</i>] reason(s) came into play while you were wearing the ring. b) What, if anything, could help you overcome [<i>this or those</i>] issue(s)?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section B Question B17. If all response categories are marked “No” and response category (31) is marked “Yes” then ask alternate question.

	What, if anything, prevented you from wearing the ring at all times during the course of the trial?		
2.6 Perceived factors hindering ring adherence.	What are some reasons why you think women may have difficulty wearing the ring at all times?	a) What, if anything, could help you overcome [<i>this or those</i>] issue(s)?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section B Question B17. If all response categories are marked “No” and response category (31) is marked “Yes” then <i>ask</i> this question. If answered the question above then <i>skip</i> this question.
2.7 Physical issues associated with the ring.	You said that you experienced [<i>physical discomfort and/or pain</i>] because of the ring [<i>once or however many days</i>] during the study and that it bothered you [<i>a little, somewhat, very much</i>]. Described what happened during [<i>that or those</i>] day(s).	a) How, if at all, did that [<i>discomfort and/or pain</i>] affect your ability to keep the ring in at all times? b) You reported different levels of [<i>discomfort and/or pain</i>] during the study trial. What affected the amount of [<i>discomfort and/or pain</i>] you felt?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section D Questions D1-4. If there are any patterns over time or different answers across surveys <i>ask</i> probe b, if not then <i>skip</i> probe b.
2.8 Ring moving or out of place.	You said that you felt the ring moving or feeling out of place [<i>once or however many days</i>] during the study and that it bothered you [<i>a little, somewhat, very much</i>]. Described what happened during [<i>that or those</i>] day(s).	a) How, if at all, did the ring moving or feeling out of place affect your ability to keep the ring in at all times? b) You said that the ring moving or feeling out of place bothered you more sometimes than others. What made this more bothersome at sometimes than others?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section D Questions D5-6. If there are any patterns over time or different answers across surveys <i>ask</i> probe b, if not then <i>skip</i> probe b.
2.9 Emotional discomfort associated with the ring.	You said that you felt worry, fear or guilt because of the ring [<i>once or however many days</i>] during the study and that it bothered you [<i>a little,</i>	a) How, if at all, did those feelings affect your ability to keep the ring in at all times?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section D Questions D7-8. If there are any patterns over time or different

		<i>somewhat, very much</i>]. Describe what was going on during [<i>that or those</i>] occasion(s).	b) You reported different levels of worry, fear or guilt during the study trial. What events or experiences influenced your different answers?	answers across surveys <i>ask</i> probe b, if not then <i>skip</i> probe b.
	2.10 Any other problems with the ring.	Did you have any other problems with the ring during the study? What happened?	a) How, if at all, did that problem affect your ability to keep the ring in at all times?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section D Questions D9-15. However, ask of all participants, even if no problems noted in D9-15.
[Transition]: Moving onto our final section we're going to talk about how well you liked the ring.				
3. Ring Acceptability	3.1 General impression of the ring.	Over the 4-week trial, you reported liking the ring [<i>more or less</i>] over time. What experiences or events made you feel this way? [OR] You said you [<i>very much disliked, disliked, liked, or very much liked</i>] the ring throughout the study. Tell me about that.		Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section C Question C1. If participant gave same answer across Follow Up surveys, use alternate question format.
	3.2 Perceived difficulty or ease of use.	Overall you reported that using the ring was [<i>very difficult, difficult, easy, or very easy</i>]. Explain why you thought that.	a) What could make the ring easier to use? b) Sometimes you reported it was [<i>easier or more difficult</i>] to use the ring and at other times you reported it was [<i>easier or more difficult</i>]. Tell me more about how this changed over time.	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavior Surveys Section C Question C4. If there are different answers across surveys <i>ask</i> probe b, if not then <i>skip</i> probe b.

	<p>3.3 Perceived difficulty or ease inserting the ring.</p>	<p>Over the course of the study you reported that the ring was [<i>very difficult, difficult, easy, or very easy</i>] to insert. What, if any strategies, did you use to make the insertion of the ring easier?</p>	<p>a) What could make the ring easier to insert?</p>	<p>Interviewer: Refer to Follow Up Behavioral Surveys Section C Question C5 If “I did not insert the ring” is marked across surveys <i>skip</i> this question. If there are different answers across surveys explore this variation.</p>
	<p>3.4 Comfort inserting the ring.</p>	<p>At the beginning of the study, you rated your comfort inserting an intravaginal ring into your vagina by yourself as a [#] out of 10. How has your level of comfort changed, if at all, over the course of the study?</p>	<p>a) Explain why or why not.</p>	<p>Interviewer: Refer to Baseline Behavioral Questionnaire Section C Question C8.</p>
	<p>3.5 Perceived difficulty or ease removing the ring.</p>	<p>During the study you reported that it was [<i>very difficult, difficult, easy, or very easy</i>] to take out the ring. Explain why you thought that.</p>	<p>a) What could make the ring easier to take out?</p>	<p>Interviewer: Refer to Follow Up Behavioral Surveys Section C Question C6. If “I did not take the ring out” is marked across surveys <i>skip</i> this question. If there are different answers across surveys explore this variation.</p>
	<p>3.6 Comfort using the ring during menstruation</p>	<p>In your computer surveys you reported starting your period during the study. Tell me about your experiences having your period while using the ring.</p> <p><i>OR</i></p> <p>How comfortable would you feel using the ring while having your period?</p>	<p>a) How did using the ring affect the way that you manage your period?</p> <p>a) How, if at all, would the way you manage your period change while using the ring?</p>	<p>Interviewer: Refer to Baseline Section D Question D2 and Follow Up Section E Questions E1. If E1 is No across all follow-up surveys, ask alternate question.</p>
	<p>3.7 Comfort with vaginal sex with the ring.</p>	<p>After having used the ring during this trial, do you think you would feel</p>	<p>a) Why or why not?</p>	<p>Interviewer: Ask only if participant did <u>not</u> have vaginal sex during the trial – i.e., Follow Up C14a is “No”</p>

		comfortable having vaginal sex with the ring in?		If Follow Up C14a is “Yes” (participant had vaginal sex during trial) skip this question.
	3.8 Experience of vaginal sex with the ring.	What was vaginal sex like while wearing the ring?	a) How, if at all, did the ring change what you normally experience during vaginal sex? b) How did your partner feel about the ring?	Interviewer: Refer to Follow-up Behavioral Surveys Section C Questions C14b-C22 and probe appropriately. If FU C14a is “No” across all surveys, skip to 3.11.
	3.9 Primary sex partner’s awareness of ring.	You said that is [is or is not] important for you that your primary sex partner does <u>not</u> feel the ring during sex. Tell me more about that.		Interviewer: Refer to Exit Behavioral Surveys Section B10. If FU C14a is “No” across all surveys, skip to 3.11.
	3.10 Primary sex partner request to remove ring.	You said that your primary sex partner asked you to take the ring out or stop wearing it. Describe what happened.		Interviewer: Skip this question if answer to C22 is “No” across all Follow-up Behavioral Surveys. If FU C14a is “No” across all surveys, skip to 3.11.
	3.11 Ring Discussions.	Outside of the clinic staff, did you talk with anyone about the ring?	a) What did you talk about? b) What did they ask about the ring? c) How did they feel about your participation in the trial? d) How, if at all, did these discussions affect your use of the ring? e) What would you tell other women about the ring?	Interviewer: Refer to Baseline Behavioral Questionnaire H1 & H2 (answers g or i) However, ask question off all participants, even if H1 & H2 (answers g or i) are skipped
	3.12 Perceived ability to talk about the ring with partner.	How comfortable would you feel discussing the ring with your sex partner or partners?	a) Why or why not? b) What would make talking about the ring easier?	Interviewer: Refer to Baseline Behavioral Questionnaire H1 or H2 (answers g or i)

			<p>[If participant says she did discuss with partner]:</p> <p>c) Tell me about that conversation.</p> <p>d) What did you talk about?</p> <p>e) How did your partner respond?</p>	
	<p>3.13 Estimated likelihood they would use the ring to prevent HIV.</p>	<p>At the beginning of the study you mentioned that if there were a similar vaginal ring available that provided some protection against HIV, it would be [<i>very unlikely, unlikely, likely, or very likely</i>] that you would keep the ring inserted. How, if at all, has your opinion changed now that you've used the ring?</p>	<p>a) Tell me about why you would be [<i>very unlikely, unlikely, likely, or very likely</i>] to use the ring in the future?</p> <p>b) What would make you more likely to use the ring?</p> <p>c) What would make you less likely to use the ring?.</p> <p>d) How, if at all, would your feelings regarding using the ring change if it provided contraception (pregnancy prevention) in addition to protection against HIV?</p>	<p>Interviewer: Refer to Baseline Behavioral Questionnaire I3.</p>
	<p>3.14 Length of time willing to use ring.</p>	<p>If you were to use the ring in the future and inserted a new ring each month, how long – that is, for how many months – do you think you would be willing to use the ring?</p>	<p>a) Why do you think you'd be comfortable using the ring for that length of time?</p> <p>b) What would make you feel comfortable using the ring for a longer period of time?</p>	
<p>[Transition]: So that's everything we have for you today, but before we part ways I wanted to ask...</p>				
<p>4. Conclusion</p>	<p>4.1 Is there any part of your experience with the vaginal ring that we didn't have a chance to talk about?</p>			

	4.2 Is there anything we did ask about that we should have asked differently?		
	4.3 Do you have any further questions or comments?		
[Concluding Statement]: That's all the questions I have. Thank you so much for taking the time to talk with me today.			