

## MTN-045

### In-Depth Interview (IDI) Topic Guide

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#### **INSTRUCTIONS for the Interviewer: How to use the IDI Guide**

1. Section topics are in shaded in gray and **bolded**.
2. *Instructions/suggestions to interviewer are in italics and [brackets]*.
3. Not ALL questions need to be asked. It is up to the interviewer's 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. Purpose statements should be considered notes to the interviewer and are not meant to be read aloud. They explain the reason for asking that question or set of questions in order to provide more context to the interviewer who can then rephrase in her own words or clarify to the participant as necessary.
5. 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 probes that 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.
6. 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.
7. The IDI guide is not meant to be used to take notes. Rather, you should use the separate notes form, where you will also insert your initials, the participant's PTID, as well as the date, start and end time of the interview.

**Before starting the IDI, confirm the participant(s) are willing to proceed with the interview.**

[Start Recorder and Read Introduction]: My name is \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you again for your willingness to be in this study. The main goal of this discussion is to better understand your preferences for a dual purpose prevention product that could be used to prevent unintended pregnancies and HIV infection. I want to remind you that there are no right or wrong answers, and what we discuss here will be kept confidential; we will not share your personal information or responses with anyone outside of the study.

If during our discussion, there are issues or concerns that you would like to talk about, feel free to bring them up; I will take note of them and answer them directly after the interview. If I cannot answer them, I can refer you to someone who may be able to help. Before we start, can you confirm for the recorder that you are still willing to participate in the interview? [Wait for oral confirmation to begin].

### **Theme: Warm-up and COVID context (~5 minutes)**

*Purpose: To warm-up participants to the qualitative interview and gain context around their experience during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic*

- 1. Before we start talking about your relationship and product preferences, we want to ask you about coronavirus (COVID-19) and the public health policies to stop its spread since it has affected so many communities around the world. How has it affected your community?**
  - What were the biggest concerns for people in the community?
  - How were health services affected?
  - How you react and cope with changes/regulations?
  - How did you and other members of you household change your behaviors in response to government guidelines?

### **Theme: Relationship Characteristics**

*Purpose: To understand relationship characteristics and how these may influence DDP preference and interest in future use*

- 2. Let's start by talking about your relationship. First, tell me how and where you met.**

*Possible probing topics:*

- What brought you two together?
- How long ago was that?
- What's changed in your relationship since then?

- 3. How would you describe your relationship to other people now?**

*Possible probing topics:*

- What's your communication like?
- How do you express your feelings or opinions to each other?
- What are typical things you agree on?
- What are typical things you disagree on?
- Earlier we talked about how coronavirus has affected your community, how did having to stay home affect you and your relationship with your partner, either negatively or positively? (also consider added stress, positive/negative coping strategies)

- 4. Now let's talk about conversations that couples have about HIV prevention and pregnancy prevention. What is it like for couples in your community to talk about i) pregnancy - including preventing, spacing or planning pregnancy and ii) HIV prevention?**

Possible probing topics:

- **KEY PROBE:** How open are couples with each other when discussing pregnancy/HIV prevention
- How often do these conversations occur?
- What are some of the reasons why couples in the community may not talk about pregnancy prevention/HIV prevention with each other?

5. **Now let's talk about specific conversations you've had recently about these topics. Think about the last conversation you had about [pregnancy prevention/HIV prevention (Note: Interviewer to ask about pregnancy prevention first then HIV prevention or vice versa, do not combine the two)]. Tell me about it.**

Possible probing topics:

- **KEY PROBE:** How do conversations about [pregnancy/HIV prevention] come up?
- What are some of the circumstances that prompted a conversation/discussion on [pregnancy/HIV prevention]?
- How often do you discuss [pregnancy/HIV prevention] together? Tell me of times when you discussed these topics together or separately.
- **KEY PROBE:** What was most difficult about this conversation?
- **KEY PROBE:** What was easy about this conversation?
- Was this a typical conversation for you?
- Who made a final decision about what you discussed?

**[If have not had discussions about Pregnancy or HIV prevention]:**

- **KEY PROBE:** What are some of the reasons that you haven't discussed [pregnancy/HIV prevention]?
- *[If interviewed as an individual]* What are some of the things you would like to discuss with your partner?

**Theme: Interest in dual-purpose prevention products**

*Purpose: To understand your interest in and motivation to use a dual-purpose prevention product.*

6. **Let's talk now about dual-purpose prevention products. First, what are some of the reasons why you would want to use a dual-purpose prevention product for pregnancy and HIV prevention?**

Possible probing topics:

- **KEY PROBE:** What would be your primary reason or motivation for using a dual prevention product – HIV prevention or pregnancy prevention? Explain.
- What are some of the things taking place in your life now that would influence your decision to use (or not to use) a DPP?
- What are some of the things that may take place in your life in the future that would influence your intention for using a DPP?
- What are reasons other couples may want to use a DPP?

7. **What are some reasons [you/you and your partner] would not want to use a dual-purpose prevention product for pregnancy and HIV prevention?**

Possible probing topics:

- What could be happening in your lives that would make you less motivated or feel like you have less need to prevent HIV?
- What could happen in your lives that would make you less motivated or feel like you have less need/desire to prevent pregnancy?
- What are reasons other couples may not want to use a DPP?

- 8. If you wanted to prevent or space pregnancies and also wanted to protect yourself from HIV, would you prefer to use one product that protects against both HIV and pregnancy, or would you rather use two different products—one for HIV prevention and another for pregnancy prevention?**

Possible probing topics:

- What would be better about using a single product vs. two separate products?
- What would be worse about using a single product vs. two separate products?
- What worries would you have about using a new medical product for both pregnancy and HIV prevention?
- How do you think a 2-in-1 product makes taking care of health easier or harder?
- What do you think are the different health effects of a single vs. a dual-purpose product? Both positive and negative effects.

**Theme: Dual-purpose product preference**

*Purpose: To get details about which dual purpose products you prefer including attributes.*

*Present participant with [a visual tool depicting product attributes and the features characterizing each attribute/an image of their chosen choice set/placebo products] to remind them of the product features they considered when choosing between potential DPPs during their previous interview.*

- 9. Can you describe the product that [you/you and your partner] chose as your preference for the prevention of HIV and unintended pregnancies when you completed your DCE interview together?**

Possible probing topics:

- *KEY PROBE:* What are the things you like about the product you chose compared to the other possible products? Please explain.
- *KEY PROBE:* What would you still change about the product that you chose and why? Please explain.
- *KEY PROBE:* What concerns do you have about the product that you chose?
- *KEY PROBE:* Which other product would you choose, if your preferred product wasn't available, and why?
- *KEY PROBE:* What are the chances that you would use a dual-purpose prevention product like the one you chose? Why or why not?

**Theme: Partner influence**

*Purpose: To find out whether partner's product preference influenced your preference for a dual-purpose prevention product.*

- 10. As you know, we haven't shared the choices you made individually with your partner/each other. You may have talked about the interview and discussed things you preferred and disliked in some of the products. Whether you've shared your individual choices or not, could you describe how the choices you made individually vs. together may have differed?**

Possible probing topics:

- *KEY PROBE:* Did you talk about your individual choices? Why or why not?
- *KEY PROBE:* What were the reasons why your choices were different? Why do you think they were aligned?

- 11. How did you and your partner reach the decision to choose a particular product together?**

Possible probing topics:

- Which product features were the hardest to discuss or the ones that you disagreed on the most? Why?
- What product features did you not need to discuss? Why?
- *KEY PROBE*: What was one thing that your partner said that made you think differently about your choice or made you choose something different than what you initially would have chosen?
- *KEY PROBE*: [If interviewed separately] How different would your preference have been if you had not chosen a product in your partner's presence?
- *KEY PROBE*: How important is it to make a choice like this together? Why is it important?

### **Theme: Other key preference influences**

*Purpose: To explore what other factors could influence preference and future use of a dual purpose prevention product.*

#### **12. What other factors may influence your i) preference for and ii) interest in future use of a dual purpose prevention product?**

##### Possible probing topics

- *KEY PROBE*: Any people that may influence preference/future use
- *KEY PROBE*: Any factors (e.g. cost, home environment, frequency of use, community rumors & perceptions etc.)
- How did your experience with coronavirus and the efforts to reduce its spread impact your preferences? (explore specific product features)

### **Theme: Community perceptions, rumors and myths**

*Purpose: To gain insight on community perceptions, rumors and myths that may influence preference for and interest in a dual purpose prevention product.*

#### **13. Tell me about the HIV and pregnancy prevention products that exist in your community.**

Possible probing topics:

- *KEY PROBE*: What are some of the things that the community says about them?
- How did these influence your choice of a DPP product?
- *KEY PROBE*: How are these likely to influence future use of DPP?
- *KEY PROBE*: What are some of the strategies that can be employed to address these?
- *[If interviewed alone] KEY PROBE*: To what extent may these have influenced your partner's choice of a DPP?

### **Theme: Wrap Up and Closing Remarks**

**13. Thank you for taking the time to talk to me and share your opinions. We truly appreciate your willingness to participate and discuss your experience with us. Before we end, I want to give you the chance to tell us anything else you would like to share about dual-purpose prevention products.**

**14. Do you have any questions for me?**