

Sample In-Depth Interview Discussion Guide (on Key Hygiene Behaviors for Preventing Diarrhea): Mothers of Children Under 5 Years

[To save space, this guide is not formatted with appropriate spaces to record all of the information.]

Introduction

- a. [Give your name and self-introduction to the possible respondent.]
- b. I am talking to some families in this community in order to better understand children's health problems. We hope that what we learn will help us design better programs that respond to what you people say they need and want.

Do you have one or more children under 5? [There may well be one or two additional questions to see if the respondent is "eligible" for an interview and what category of respondent—by area of residence, ethnic group, etc. — this person fits into. If this person is not eligible, thank her and end the interview.]

- c. [If eligible, explain how the discussion works]:
 - You can say anything you want as long as that is truly how you feel.
 - There are no right or wrong answers, only your ideas and opinions.
 - We will return in a few weeks to tell your community what everyone said in these discussions. However, be assured that I will NOT tell anyone what YOU as an individual say. Your name will not be used, and no one will be told about what any one person says.
 - Would you be willing to talk with me for about one hour? You can continue with your tasks if you wish, and I will just follow you around. [If she declines to interview, ask why, try briefly to convince but do not pressure. Thank her and leave. If she is willing, continue.]
- d. Do you have any questions?
- e. Please answer a few introductory questions about yourself and your family.
 - Who else lives in your home besides you, and what is each person's relation to you?
 - What are your children's names and ages?

Name	Age

[The guide should tell the interviewer how to choose one child to refer to in specific questions, if the mother has more than one child under 5. The preference may be for a child 6 to 23 months old, because this is the age of highest diarrhea prevalence.]

- f. A few of the questions I'd like to ask will pertain to X [name of child].
 - If you do any work besides caring for your family and children, what type of work?

- What type of work does your husband do?

[Record identification information: name, date, eligibility criteria, location]

Diarrhea

1. What health problems most affect children here?
2. What health problem do you most worry about with X? Why?
3. Are there other health problems that you worry for X? [For each mention] Why?
4. Does X ever get diarrhea?
 - In the past 2 weeks? Yes ___ No ___
 - Has X had diarrhea in the last 24 hours? Yes ___ No ___
5. What happens when X gets diarrhea?
6. How does it affect X?
7. How do you feel about these episodes of diarrhea? Do they concern you or do you consider it something not to worry about? Why?
8. Are there different types of diarrhea that children get?
9. [If yes] What are these types and how are they different?
10. What causes each type of diarrhea?

Types of diarrhea	Causes	How to prevent

11. Do you believe it is possible to prevent diarrhea?
 - [If yes, ask] How can diarrhea be prevented?
 - Do you do anything to prevent diarrhea? Please explain.
 - Are there other things that you would like to do to prevent diarrhea but do not for some reason?
 - [If yes, ask] What are they? Why don't you do these things?

Worms

12. Have you heard about intestinal parasites (worms)?
 - [If yes, ask] What are they?
 - What do they do?
13. Whom do they affect the most?
 - Do they affect children?
 - [If yes, ask] How? Please explain.

- i. Do many children have parasites? Yes ___ No ___
- ii. Do you consider worms good or bad or both? Please explain.

14. Can you prevent your family from getting parasites?

- [If yes, ask] What can you do? What do you actually DO?

Water

15. Do you believe that all water is the same? Yes ___ No ___

- [If no, ask] what different types are there and what should each be used for?
- Does your family use water this way? Yes ___ No ___ [If no] Why not?

16. What kind of water is good to drink? [If not mentioned, ask about the clarity, solids, color, odor, flavor, and source]

- Do you believe that the water available to your family is good to drink? Why [or why not]?

17. What can you do to make water good to drink?

- Do you do any of these things at home?
- [If yes] Please explain how you do these things in detail. [Ask for a demonstration. If the mother is doing chores during the interview, you can wait until the end to ask for all of the demonstrations.]
- Does everyone in the family drink this water?
- How is the taste of this water?
- What have you heard about other ways to treat drinking water? [If not mentioned, ask if people around here use boiling, chlorinating, or filtering.]

18. Where does the water come from that your family drinks at home? ...in the fields?

19. Does it sometimes come from other places?

- [If yes, ask] From where? When?

20. Where does the water that you use to cook come from?

21. Please describe to me everything that you do with water to prepare food, cook, and clean up after a meal. Please tell me what you do first and how, then what you do next, and so on. [If not mentioned, ask about washing fruits and vegetables, cleaning food-preparation surfaces, washing kitchen utensils, etc.]

22. Who collects the water for the family?

- Do others help sometimes? [If yes] Who?

23. Is it easy or difficult to get water for the family?

- Why/ why not? Does this depend on the time of the year?
- [If yes] please explain.
- How much time does it usually take each day to collect water?
- Do you feel that this a little time or a lot of time?

24. How is the water transported to your home?

- Is there a cover on the container?
- How do people carry the container?
- How do family members working in the fields get water?

25. Do you pay for water?

- *[If yes, ask:]* How much do you pay each month?
- Do you believe this is a fair amount? Yes ___ No ___
- Why/why not?

26. Would you pay to have more water available in or very near your home?

- *[If no, ask]* Why not?
- *If yes, ask]* How much would you pay each month?

Water Use & Treatment

27. Where do you store the family's drinking water?

- Could you please show me? *[Note type of container, if covered, type of cup or ladle to retrieve water]*
- How do you retrieve the water? Please demonstrate.
- Which, if any, children retrieve their own water? Please ask them to demonstrate for me how they do it.
- Where do you store the utensil used to retrieve water?
- Could you show me how you retrieve and drink the water?
- Do you ever wash the container? *[If yes] how often/how?*
- When did you last wash this container?
- How? *[Note what soap, other materials involved.]*

28. Where does your family bathe?

- Where does the water that your family uses to bathe come from?
- What, if anything, do you use to wash *[soap, soap substitute, sponge, etc.]?*

29. What do you usually do with left-over water after cooking or cleaning the house?

Hand Washing

30. Do you and your family ever wash your hands?

- *[If no, ask]* Why not?
- *[If yes, ask]* Why?
- When do you wash hands?
- *[If not mentioned, ask]* Do you normally wash?
before eating: Yes ___ No ___
before preparing food: Yes ___ No ___
before eating or feeding a child: Yes ___ No ___
after defecating: Yes ___ No ___
after cleaning a baby's bottom: Yes ___ No ___
- When you are in the fields, do you wash before eating and after defecating?

31. How many times have you washed your hands today?

- How many times today have X's hands been washed?
- Please show me where you usually wash your hands. Please wash your hands the way you usually do. [Note if mother uses water and from where, uses soap or a substitute, rubs hands together at least 3 times, dries hands and how. Also look for a regular place for hand washing, presence of a washing basin or Tippy Tap, water drainage, cleanliness of material used for drying.]

Location		
Water from where		
Cleansing agent		
Number of times rub hands <u>together</u>		
How dry		
Water drainage		

32. Do you have soap in the house?

- [If no, ask] Why not?
 - i. Do you ever make soap at home? Do you know how?
 - ii. Have you ever used anything else besides soap or water to wash your hands? Why or why not?
 - iii. Would you be willing to try washing hands with ash or sand (or some other locally available material)? Yes ___ No ___
 - iv. How available is this material?
- [If yes, ask] What do you use it for? Anything else?
 - v. Where do you buy it?
 - vi. How much does it cost?
 - vii. Do you think it is a fair price?
 - viii. [If not used for hand-washing] Why don't you use it for hand-washing?

Feces Disposal

33. What are feces?

- What is the best thing to do with them? Why do you say that?
- What's good or bad about feces? Can they cause illnesses? How?
- Are children's feces the same as adults? [If no] How are they different?
- Are animal's feces the same as human feces? [If no] How are they different?

34. Where does your family defecate at home? Why in this place?

- Is this always, usually, or sometimes?
- Where else?
- Is it the same for day and night? Yes ___ No ___
- Is it the same all year round? Yes ___ No ___ [If not] why not?
- Where have the family members defecated today?

35. Is there another place you would prefer to defecate?

- [If no, ask] Why or why not?
- [If yes, ask] Where?
- Why haven't you constructed a latrine?

- What would the benefits of a latrine be for your family?
- What type of latrine would you like? Why?
- [If not mentioned, ask about type of material, wooden or cement ground, space to take baths in the latrine, small opening to allow children to use it]
- Would you be willing to dig the hold for a latrine if a health program provided other materials to build one?

36. Where does X usually defecate?

- What happens to X's feces? [If not mentioned, ask about throwing in latrines, in the bush, in a hole or garbage pit, in the garden]
- Where did X defecate the last time?
- What happened to the feces?

37. [If the family does have a latrine] what family members use your latrine?

- When, if ever, do they not use the latrine?
- What do you like about it?
- What don't you like about it?
- How could it be improved?
- Why haven't you done this already?
- Can you please show me your latrine? [Note distance from home and water, type of latrine, condition of path to latrine, cleanliness of latrine, smell, wiping material, privacy afforded, other uses such as storage or bathing, bugs, vermin, mosquitoes, hole or seat appropriate for child. Ask about light to use day and night, if people outside the family use

38. Where do your family members defecate when in the fields?

Communication Channels

39. Where do you most often get information about protecting your family's health?

- Where else do you get such information?
- Where do you get the best, most useful information on your family's health?

<i>Sources of In formation</i>	<i>Briefly Describe</i>	<i>Most Often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>Most Useful</i>
Family or friends				
CHW				
Traditional healer				
Facility-based health worker				
Radio/TV				
Meetings/clubs/community events				
Drama, songs				
Print material				
Other				

40. Are there any other ways that you think would be good for giving people such information? If so, what are your ideas?

Other

41. Do you have any animals in the household area?

- [If yes, ask] Do they run freely? [Observe]
- [If yes, ask] Do they leave feces close to the house? [Observe]
- What happens to the animal feces?

42. Are there flies in the home? [Observe]

- [If yes, ask] What do you think attracts flies?
- What is your opinion of the flies? Do they bother your family? Are they dirty? Do they bring illnesses?'
- Do you do anything to protect your family from the flies?
- [If yes, ask] What do you do?
- [If not mentioned, ask about covering food, putting away trash, cleaning the area]

Thank you very much! I am done asking questions. Do you have any questions for me?