**Newborn care narrative: Recent mothers**

# Theme 1: Socio-demographic and interview information

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| * 1. ID:   2. Interview date:   3. Interview start time:   4. Interview end time:   5. Marital status:   6. Ethnicity:   7. Religion:   8. Last completed grade:   9. Main occupation:   10. Age: | * 1. Household members:   2. Total number of children delivered:   3. Place of last delivery   4. Sex of baby:   5. Age of baby:   6. Season and temperature at birth:   7. Socio-economic status (observe):   8. Interviewer code:   9. Translator code   10. Tape recording number: |

**Theme 2: Delivery and newborn care**

* 1. Can you tell me in as much detail as possible the story of “name’s” birth. Start from when you first felt labor pains.

**Probe:**

* Who did you tell and what did they do?
* Who made the decision about where to deliver? When was the decision made? What do you think influenced this decision? How did you feel about the decision?
  1. Who helped you deliver, can you describe what this person did and how the labor progressed?
  2. Who else was at the delivery, what did they do?
  3. What happened to the baby immediately after it came out? **Probe:**
* Between birth and the placenta being delivered
* After the placenta was delivered
* Who made the decisions about what happened to the baby?
* Would you have liked the baby to be cared for in a different way?
* Was this different to how your other children were cared for?
  1. What was your condition, immediately after the baby came out? Did you have any problems? Was the baby with you?
  2. What happened to you and the baby during the rest of that day/night? Who was in the house? What did they do?
  3. How was the baby kept warm immediately after delivery? Were they wiped or covered? Who decided this?
  4. Did the baby have a vernix after delivery? **If yes:** How did you feel about that?
  5. Can you describe the baby’s first bath? When was it done? Who decided this? What influenced the decision? **If not done by the mother herself:** What did you think about how the baby was first bathed? Was this different from when your other children were bathed?
  6. When was the baby first put to the breast? **Note: not the same as when the baby started drinking!** Who decided this? What influenced the decision? What did you feel about the timing? Was this different from when your other children were first fed?
  7. Did you give the baby the first yellow milk? How did you feel about this?
  8. Was the baby given any other food or drinks other than breast-milk during the first days of life? How did you feel about this? Was this different than for your other children? **If food or fluids given:** What was the reason they were given?
  9. Did you have any problems breastfeeding the baby in the first days and weeks of life? **If yes:** What was the problem? Why do you think it happened? Did anyone help with the problem?

**Theme 3: Agency, self-efficacy and social networks**

* 1. How much of a role do you play in managing the household?
  2. You told me your story of giving birth and the first days of <NAME>’s life: how much were you able to have a say in how you and your baby were cared for? **Probe if needed:** For example did you have a say in where the baby was placed, when it was bathed, when it was breastfed.
  3. Do you feel you have more knowledge and skills or less knowledge and skills to manage and plan the care for you baby than your family members?
  4. Do you think that most families in your community take care of their newborns in the same way as you and your family did? What makes you say that?
  5. Have your family members given you advice on how you should take care of your newborn? And what about your friends? How important is it to you what your friends and family think of how you take care of your baby? How much have they made you change your practices?

**Theme 4: The HDA and HEWs**

* 1. Could you tell me about any contacts you had with health workers, HEWs or HDA, during pregnancy, and in the first three days of life? Did the HEW or HDA talk to you about:
     1. Where to deliver - What did they say? Was this new to you?
     2. How to care for the baby immediately after it comes out - What did they say? Was this new to you?
     3. Bathing the baby after delivery - What did they say? Was this new to you?
     4. Breastfeeding the baby - What did they say? Was this new to you?
     5. Whether to give the baby additional foods or fluids in the first days of life - What did they say? Was this new to you?
     6. Receiving a visit in the first 3 days of life - What did they say? Was this new to you?
  2. Was there any advice that you particularly liked?

Was there any advice that you did not agree with? Did you family members, agree with that advice?

* 1. Did you get advice from other people on any of these issues? Was their advice the same or different to the HEW/HDA advice? How did you feel about this?
  2. Overall would you say the visits of the HEW/ HDA changed how your baby was cared for? Why do you say that?
  3. **If HEW visited in first 3 days:** How did the HEW know you had delivered? What were the good and bad points of the visit?
  4. **IF HEW did not visit in first 3 days of life:** Do you think the HEW knew you had delivered? Why do you say that?

**Theme 5: Interviewer comments and reflections:** Include where the interview was conducted, any interruptions, the mood during the interview, how open the respondent was and your views on their personality.

**Thank the respondent for their time**