

VIGTARC Qualitative Study

Guiding questions for HC staff interview

1. Introduction

We are [NAME] and [NAME], data collectors working for a research project to provide curing treatment of malaria with frequent relapses (*Pv malaria*) implemented by an organization (Health and Social Development) in collaboration with the National Malaria Program and local health authorities. In addition to the routinely collected data, the project evaluation requires additional information from different people involved in the project to draw lessons learned for further improvement and scaling up.

As you are a key person of the HC involved in this project, we would like to ask about your experience, ideas and perceptions about the project implementation, especially about the strengths, challenges and recommendations. This interview will take about 45 minutes. It is purely anonymous and confidential. All identifying information like name of participants and participating HCs will not be linked to anything they say in reports and presentations.

If you allow, I would like to start the interview now. In order to make sure that we don't miss things you tell us, we would like to audiotape this interview if you give permission. The recording will be deleted after the data is used.

2. Information about the interviewee

- First, I would like to ask you a few questions about yourself and your individual experience of G6PD testing (*write the replies in the box*)

Question	Answer
Name	
Age	
Sex	
Number of years working in this health centre	
Name of the health centre	
Role in the health centre	
Involvement in the project:	overall management G6PD test treatment & counselling data management, including Mobile App
According to the above areas of involvement, ask for Approximate Number of:	G6PD rapid tests conducted by the interviewee (If no, put 0): _____

	<p>G6PD biosensor tests conducted by the interviewee (If no, put 0): _____</p> <p>patients with G6PD deficiency that the interviewee has seen (If no, put 0): _____</p> <p>patients with Pv enrolled in the 14 daily doses of PQ that the interviewee has made use of the Mobile App (tablet) to enter the data (If no, put 0): _____</p>
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3. About P. vivax burden in the area

- Please tell me about malaria situation in this area (HC catchment area). Is there any change in burden (number of cases) over time since early 2019 (before the project started) until now?
- How about the number of Pf compared to PV cases?
- Who is most affected by Pv? Why is it so and how does it affect them?
- Is there any patients with Pv to seek care in the private sector? If so, how common is it (about how many or what %)?

4. About the project (Pv radical cure) - general

- Firstly please tell me about the P. vivax radical cure project and your general opinion about strengths and weaknesses. Are there any major challenges in the project implementation at your HC and elsewhere?

(Give them time to think and talk about the project. Prompt them to talk about strengths and weaknesses, including major implementation challenges, and explore more deeply when they mention anything that you think might be interesting and useful)

- Please tell me step by step about what happens when a patient comes to the HC and is diagnosed with P. vivax
(Interviewer should use the project case management flow chart to follow the answer, and take notes about key steps indicated by the interviewee and then ask)
 - About how much time does the whole process take, from the time the patient arrives until s/he leaves the health center?
 - How has the introduction of the P. vivax radical cure project impacted on your work?
 - Any suggestions for improvement?

5. About the project (P. vivax radical cure) - specific

- Training
 - How many times have you attended training about the P. vivax project? Is this too much, too little, just right?
 - Any recommendations on how to improve the training?
 - Were you provided with any guidelines? Any suggestions for improvement?
- Documentation
 - How many different pieces of paper have to be filled for each patient, including patient card, lab form, etc.?
 - What do you think about the patient malaria card? Do patients remember to bring it?
 - Any problems or suggestions with regards filling in the forms?
- The electronic app on tablet (MobileApp)
 - Please tell me about your opinion of the app?
 - Any problems or suggestions for the app?
 - Does using Mobile App make you spend more or less time per patient than before?
- G6PD testing
 - What do you think about the G6PD rapid test (the one with color-based reading result)? Have you had any problems with this kind of test? Have you had to repeat G6PD test because of technical problem (wrongly done or impossible to read the result)? If so, how often?
 - What other G6PD tests have you used? Have you had any problems with these tests?
 - Among all the G6PD tests you used, which one do you prefer to use – why?
 - Any suggestions for improving the system for testing?
 - Do any patients get referred from the private sector for testing?
- Primaquine treatment and supply
 - Before the P. vivax radical cure project had you heard about primaquine treatment? What had you heard?
 - After you started using primaquine, in your opinion what do you think of it – is it popular with patients? Safe? Effective?
 - Any problems with the primaquine? Do you think patients can adhere to the 14 daily doses? How about 8 week treatment?
 - Please explain about the supply of primaquine flows from central supply through the patient receiving first and other doses
 - Any problems or suggestions from improving the supply flow?
 - There is a one-dose treatment which is not yet available in Cambodia. It is in same group as primaquine so has the same side effects including haemolysis in patients with G6PD deficiency, but it only one dose. Do you think this is something you would like to use?
- Role of VMW

- In your opinion what do you think about the capacity and work load of the VMW? Could they do more (e.g. do the G6PD testing)? Or should they do less?
- Frequency of follow up – do you think it is too often, too much, just right as it is now (with 3 follow up home visits)?
- What do you think about the ability of VMW in using the MobileApp and how useful it is for them as compared to paper work?
- Community sensitization and education about the project
 - To what extent do you think Pv patients and the community are aware of this project to support G6PD test and radical cure treatment of Pv?
 - Any suggestions for improving the level of awareness and knowledge about P. vivax radical cure & G6PD testing in the community