

Sample Training Outline for Community Interviewers

Programs that will use experienced local qualitative researchers can consider this outline as a guide for their training. It emphasizes core concepts about maternal survival over qualitative research techniques. The more the interviewers understand about birth preparedness, the specific obstetric complications and the impact of careseeking delays when these occur, about common barriers and resistances to use of skilled care, and of all the steps and detours in the pathway to survival, the better able they will be to ask appropriate follow-up questions, particularly the complication narratives. When presented in a simple and straightforward manner, experience has shown that community interviewers will understand the concepts – and will collect richer data.

DAY 1

<i>am</i>	Overview of Key Concepts in Maternal Survival
	Birth Preparedness
	“Chain of Care” – How the different maternal care providers at different levels of system are linked (or should be) to get women to skilled care
	Three Delays
	Pathway to Survival
<i>pm</i>	Brief Overview Behavior Change Approach
	Behavior-Based Programming
	Specific Recommended Behaviors for the SCI
	How the Research Results will be used to Develop Behavior Change Interventions to Improve Maternal Survival

DAY 2

<i>am</i>	Brief Overview of Basic Qualitative Research Techniques <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FGD/IDI • Probes/Open-ended interviewing • Recording Results • Capturing Verbatims
	Review qualitative research instruments per category /Practice exercises
<i>pm</i>	Special Methodologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projective Techniques • Card Sorts • Developing a Lexicon of Women’s Health Terms • “Consultative Research” • Concept Testing
	More Practice exercises

DAY 3

Full day of practice interviews
Review of translations, suggest initial revisions if needed

The instruments can be pretested during Day 4 of the training and revised Day 5.

If the program wishes, more interviewer candidates than needed can be trained, and the best selected from among the entire group. This will ensure that strong interviewers are hired and that there are trained back-ups if others are needed.