

**FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION WITH HUSBANDS / MALE FAMILY INFLUENTIALS  
OF WOMAN WHO HAS DELIVERED IN PAST 6 MONTHS**

<b>FGD: #</b>	
Village/town:	Age range of participants:
Number of men in group:	
Closest CEOC referral facility (near/far):	
Closest BEOC referral facility (near/far):	
Type of health care facility available in village/town:	

**Husband/Male Partner Ideal Behaviors:**

- Provide social support during pregnancy, birth and early postpartum to wife/pregnant woman in household.
- Actively participate in household dialogue with other family influentials, and peers regarding:
  - birth preparedness,
  - timely use of skilled care for normal births,
  - timely use of skilled care for obstetric complications and emergencies,
  - early postpartum care use (first week and 2 weeks after birth).
- Participate in the development of household solutions as part of the maternal care team during pregnancy, birth, and early postpartum period (first week after birth), particularly financial, transport and timely “permission to seek skilled care” authorization (gatekeeper).
- Accept the proposed role of “link care provider”- to link women and families to the closest source of skilled obstetric care.
- Provide appropriate assistance to support the woman to reach skilled care when complications are recognized during birth and early postpartum.

**Research Objectives:**

**Overall Objectives:**

- To determine knowledge and perception of obstetric emergencies among husbands and other male influentials in household and community.
- To determine the decision making and social support roles of husbands and other

male influentials in household and community during routine pregnancy, childbirth and obstetric emergencies.

- To test the acceptability of concepts for skilled obstetric care provision among husbands and other male influentials in household and community.

**Specific Objectives:**

1. To elicit husband/male influential perspective on preparation women and families now make for birth, particularly their current role in preparations/support and potential roles; feasibility and acceptability of birth preparedness; and to understand motivations of men to participate in preparing for the birth and ensuring skilled attendance at delivery.
2. To explore husband/male influential support and perceived consequences of TBA compared to care by a skilled attendant during and after delivery, and their perspective on the preferences of women **now** for birth attendant and birth location, and reasons why women do or do not use skilled care (barriers, motivators, willingness to change).
3. To explore husbands/male influentials' knowledge and perceptions of problems, complications, and emergencies in birth and early postpartum, when and where they should be cared for, and perceptions of emergency care providers.
4. To understand husbands/male influential role as gatekeeper to skilled care and how this can be re-patterned if necessary, and to determine factors that underlie household and community level delays in seeking skilled care for normal births and in obstetric emergencies, particularly their own role but also the specific role of other household and community influentials.
5. To determine awareness of husbands/males of the need for and content of early postpartum care (within one week following birth); when/if and what they do now during first week after birth; get ideas on how early postpartum care coverage (both in -home and by a skilled provider in facility) could be increased.
6. To get husband/male perspective on their own social networks, and how these social networks might be best used to rapidly spread information about improved obstetric care practices among their peers and the community- at- large.

This is part of a study to learn more about how we can help women be healthier in pregnancy and childbirth. We want to learn about what men in your community do to support women during childbirth and in the time right after. Because we know that men are important in the family

We will begin by asking you each to introduce yourselves (first names only) and briefly tell as about:

Relationship to woman / status in household:	
Resides in:	Wife's family home Husband's family home
Most recent exposure to birth in household:	
Normal Delivery:	Yes No (if no, consider this respondent for complications narrative interview)

Basic Line of Questioning	Probes
<b>BIRTH PREPAREDNESS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who usually decides where women give birth? Who usually decides who will attend the women during birth? After birth?</li> </ul>	
<b>SKILLED ATTENDANCE</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where do you think most women prefer to give birth?</li> <li>Who do you think most women prefer to attend them during birth? After birth? Why?</li> <li>Do you think more women would be willing to use skilled attendants (<i>define skilled attendance for them</i>)?</li> <li>What are the good things that happen when women deliver with a TBA? What are some of the bad things that could happen?</li> <li>What are the good things that happen when women deliver with a skilled attendant? What are some of the bad things that could happen?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why?</li> <li>Is this the same as where husbands usually prefer the woman to give birth? Attend to them? Why/why not?</li> <li>Why/why not?</li> <li>What would help to convince them to use skilled attendants?</li> <li>What would need to change?</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are some reasons that men prefer their wives to use a TBA? A skilled attendant?</li> <li>• What might keep women from not seeking skilled attendance at birth when there are no problems?</li> </ul>	
<b>SKILLED ATTENDANCE FOR OBSTETRIC COMPLICATIONS &amp; EMERGENCIES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you heard about any problems women have during childbirth or in the days or weeks right after?</li> <li>• What happens in the household after a woman has an obstetric problem?</li> <li>• When a woman gets treatment for an obstetric emergency at a facility, what happens?</li> <li>• Why do you think some women with obstetric emergencies do not get skilled attendance at a facility in time?</li> <li>• Do you think some men keep women from getting to skilled care in time when there is a problem?</li> </ul>	<p>For each, ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is that a serious problem? Why/why not?</li> <li>• Do you know what causes that problem to come?</li> <li>• What do people usually do when that problem happens? Why?</li> <li>• Good/bad? How long does this last? What does this mean for the family?</li> <li>• Are they prepared for emergencies there? How well do they take care of emergencies?</li> <li>• Cost, distance, transport as well as other factors: Family decision-making? Fear?</li> <li>• What do they do and why?</li> </ul>
<b>EARLY POSTPARUM CARE</b>	
<p>We talked a bit about preparing for birth, and about giving birth. Now I would like to ask you a few more questions about the time right after birth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What usually happens in the household two weeks after birth?</li> <li>• Do husbands or male family members do anything to support the new mothers in this?</li> <li>• Even when the mother and baby are fine, do they get a check-up right after birth?</li> <li>• Who else usually comes to see new mothers and the baby during the week or two after birth? Why, for what?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If yes, what?</li> <li>• When?</li> <li>• Who is the best person to check-up on the mother?</li> <li>• to check on the baby?</li> <li>• Where does this happen usually?</li> <li>• Are there any types of people who are <b>not</b> allowed to visit new mothers after birth? Why?</li> <li>• Who?</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Did anyone tell you that it is important that your wife and the new baby should be checked right after the birth and again during the first few weeks after?</li> <li>• If we want to make sure that all new mothers and babies are seen by a skilled attendant in the time right after delivery, how do you think we could make sure this happens?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When?</li> <li>• What did they tell you?</li> <li>• What could husbands and male family members do to help? Why would this be good? What could other community members do?</li> </ul>
<b>TEST CONCEPT: LINK CARE PROVIDER</b>	
<p>We have talked about care for new mothers and new babies after birth, about why women and families do/do not seek or expect health care during that time. Now I would like to ask a few questions about some ideas we have to try and improve the availability, access and use of skilled care here during birth and in the time right after birth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would men allow someone trained to visit their home in the days and weeks following birth if there were no health problems for the mother/baby?</li> <li>• Have you heard that there is any (skilled) care available routine/emergency for new mothers or new babies at any health facility near you? far from you?</li> <li>• Would men allow their wives to go out to visit someone trained in the days and weeks following birth if there were no health problems for your wife/baby for a routine check?</li> <li>• If there were problems?</li> <li>• Do you think men would allow an EPP visitor in during weeks 1 and 2 after birth?</li> <li>• Would women have any difficulty making an EPP check-up visit out?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why/ why not?</li> <li>• If there <b>are</b> health problems for wife/baby? Why/ why not?</li> <li>• If no problem/ if problem. Why?</li> <li>• Who would be the best person?</li> <li>• Would families agree with this? Why/why not?</li> <li>• at ANY other (skilled) care source? Why would families use/not use these kinds of care?</li> <li>• What about other kinds of care (unskilled/ traditional/other)?</li> <li>• Why would you use/not use these kinds of care?</li> <li>• Why/ why not? Who? Where?</li> <li>• Why/ why not?</li> <li>• Who?</li> <li>• Where?</li> <li>• What kind? Why?</li> <li>• What kind? Why?</li> </ul>

<b>SOCIAL NETWORKS/SOCIAL COMMUNICATION</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do men find out about women's health like pregnancy, childbirth and problems with delivery? How did you find out? Do you wish you knew more?</li> <li>• How could other men be informed about these important issues so they could support their wives or female relatives?</li> <li>• Do you listen to the radio?</li> <li>• Where do men in your community usually socialize? With whom?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How often? What times? What programs are your favorites? Do you ever talk with others about what you hear on the radio?</li> </ul>