

Online Resource 2

Expert Consultation Summary

Objective: To document responses from a structured pre-survey consultation conducted with medical and public health professionals prior to field deployment, undertaken to inform symptom prioritisation, confounder selection, and questionnaire design.

Survey period: 9–14 December 2025 | Responses received: 18 | Platform: Google Forms

Note: Raw response data were tabulated and summarised with the assistance of a large language model (Claude, Anthropic). All frequencies and percentages were computed directly from the source data file. The tool was used for organisational and summarisation purposes only.

Table A1. Respondent Profile

Name	Designation	Affiliation	Experience
Dr Maruf Shah	Doctor	Prashanti Nursing Home	0–2 yrs
Mainuddin Ansari	Doctor	Tipu Sultan Unani Medical College	0–2 yrs
Dr Ramesh Bind	Doctor	Patna Homoeopathic Medical College & Hospital	>10 yrs
Dr Shujauddin K Shaikh	Doctor	NGO	>10 yrs
Dr Shrutika J Gawde	Doctor	Organisation	>10 yrs
Dr Megha Toude	Doctor	Hospital	0–2 yrs
Nisha Jain	Doctor	HDFC Ergo Insurance Company Ltd	0–2 yrs
Rukhsar Z Shaikh	Doctor	Omega Health Care Pvt. Ltd	3–5 yrs
Vidhi Desai	Doctor	Gujrati Samaj	0–2 yrs
Anonymous	Nurse/Paramedical	Durga Hospital	3–5 yrs
Dr Ritesh	Doctor	Oscar Hospital	6–10 yrs
Dr Akanksha Devakate	Doctor	Self	3–5 yrs
Nazreen Khan	Doctor	ACME Hospital	3–5 yrs
Dr Sitaram Munde	Doctor	Aditya Birla Memorial Hospital, Pune	0–2 yrs
Dr Madiha Lokhande	Doctor	KESCHKHMC, Alibag	3–5 yrs
Shahid Rehan	Doctor	Om Sai Baba Hospital	0–2 yrs
Daniya Adhikari	Doctor	KESCHKHMC, Alibag	0–2 yrs
Dr Ayesha Dapolkar	Doctor	Dr M L Dhawale Memorial Trust Hospital, Palghar	0–2 yrs

Table A2. Health Conditions Identified as Priorities (n = 18, multiple selection)

Health Condition	n	%
Acute respiratory infections (cough, cold)	16	0.89
Vector-borne diseases (dengue, malaria)	14	0.78
Gastrointestinal infections / diarrhoea	13	0.72
Asthma attacks / wheezing	10	0.56
Skin rashes / dermatitis	10	0.56
Chronic bronchitis / COPD	8	0.44
Eye irritation / conjunctivitis	7	0.39
Higher TB incidence	5	0.28
Mental health issues (stress, anxiety)	5	0.28

Table A3. Top 3 Priority Conditions — Free-Text Responses

Respondent	Free-Text Response
Dr Maruf Shah	LRTI, food-borne disease, allergic conditions (asthma / sinusitis)
Dr Ramesh Bind	Respiratory system, skin conditions, asthma
Dr Shujauddin K Shaikh	STI, tuberculosis, HIV
Dr Shrutika J Gawde	RTI, acute gastroenteritis
Rukhsar Z Shaikh	TB, COPD, dengue
Vidhi Desai	Decreasing TB incidence, vector-borne diseases, nutritional guidance
Anonymous	Respiratory infections, dengue, malaria, food poisoning
Dr Ritesh	LRTI, acute gastroenteritis, dengue, malaria
Nazreen Khan	COPD
Dr Madiha Lokhande	COPD, ischaemic heart disease, diabetes mellitus
Shahid Rehan	Gastroenteritis, URTI, typhoid fever
Daniya Adhikari	Respiratory problems, mental health issues, vector-borne disease
Dr Ayesha Dapolkar	Gastroenteritis, cholera, malaria

Table A4. Priority Confounders for Survey Inclusion (n = 18, multiple selection)

Confounder	n	%
Occupational dust exposure (rag-picker, recycler, road worker)	11	0.61
Recent dump fires / visible smoke episodes	11	0.61
Recent flu / viral season	10	0.56
Smoking in household	8	0.44
Indoor cooking fuel (wood / kerosene / coal)	6	0.33

Table A5. Recommended Objective / Proxy Exposure Indicators (n = 18, multiple selection)

Indicator	n	%
Main drinking water source (tap / groundwater / bottled / pond)	13	0.72
Use of nearby puddles or creeks for washing / cleaning	12	0.67
Household age-group composition (children <5, elderly >60)	10	0.56
Frequency of dust deposition in home (daily / weekly / monthly)	9	0.5
Recent visible smoke or dump-fire exposure (Yes / No)	9	0.5
Recent antibiotic or inhaler use (last 3 months)	6	0.33
Recent skin infections requiring clinic visit	5	0.28

Table A6. TB History — Inclusion Recommendation

Response	n	%
Yes — "Has any household member ever been diagnosed with TB by a doctor?"	10	0.56
No — TB should not be included	5	0.28
No response	3	0.17

Table A7. Healthcare Utilisation — Expert Recommendation

Recommendation	n	%
Yes — number of doctor visits + reason (last 3 months)	11	0.61
Yes — ask if using inhaler or respiratory medication	6	0.33
No response	1	0.06

Table A8. Open-Text Responses — Ethical Sensitivity, Missing Symptoms & Final Advice

Theme	Respondent	Response
Ethical sensitivity / distress	Rukhsar Z Shaikh	TB is the most sensitive topic in slums
Ethical sensitivity / distress	Dr Shujauddin K Shaikh	Use of face mask recommended for field investigators
Ethical sensitivity / distress	Dr Ritesh	Personal details may be sensitive
Ethical sensitivity / distress	Anonymous	Dengue and malaria are still very prominent seasonally; TB incidence may be lower than expected
Missing symptoms to include	Vidhi Desai	Breathlessness on exertion, night sweats, debility
Missing symptoms to include	Dr Shujauddin K Shaikh	Respiratory problems (general)
Missing symptoms to include	Anonymous	Upper respiratory tract infection
Symptoms to exclude (non-specific)	Vidhi Desai	Dry cough / night cough — too non-specific
Final advice — low-literacy setting	Dr Maruf Shah	Simplify terminology for general public
Final advice — low-literacy setting	Dr Shujauddin K Shaikh	Awareness through media
Final advice — low-literacy setting	Vidhi Desai	Free health camps as community engagement strategy
Final advice — low-literacy setting	Anonymous	Ask about water storage practices specifically
Final advice — low-literacy setting	Dr Ritesh	Ask about household waste storage and civic practices