

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Title of the study: Perceived barriers to effective medical management of hypertension among the elderly persons in selected rural communities of the Republic Democratic of Congo: A qualitative study

Date of interview:

Starting time:

.Closing time:

Place of the interview:

Participant' code:

Researcher's code:

Section 1: General information

1. Age of the participant in year:
2. Sex:
3. Marital status:
4. Highest level of education:
5. Secure source of monthly income (pension, grant, business):
6. How long have you been on antihypertensive medication?
7. How many medical appointments have you missed in the past six months?

Section 2: Main open-ended questions

Introduction: Adherence to the prescribed antihypertensive medicine and the medical appointments are important in controlling high blood pressure, preventing related complications, and allowing the person suffering from hypertension to live a normal life. However, there are many reasons that prevent hypertensive patients to take their medicines or to keep their medical appointments. These reasons can vary from one individual to another.

1. From your own experience as an elderly person suffering from hypertension living in this community, what make it difficult for you to take your antihypertensive medications as prescribed by your doctor? (In the past six months? In the past twelve months?)
2. From your own experience as an elderly person suffering from hypertension living in this community, what make it difficult for you to keep your clinic appointments? ((In the past six months? In the past twelve months?))