

TOPIC GUIDE

In-depth interview with young people who disengaged along the TB care cascade

Introductions

Good morning/ afternoon. My name is I work with an organization called ReSoK (Respiratory Society of Kenya), which is an organization whose mandate is to promote and improve lung health in Kenya and beyond through many ways like research, education, training, and technical support.

The Respiratory Society of Kenya (ReSoK) is currently conducting a study This study is done in partnership with health facilities in Nairobi, including ... *[name of the facility where the participant was recruited from]*.

We would like to talk to you about your experience as you sought services in Facility XX

The interview will take about 40-60 minutes. Your ideas are important to us. Therefore, I will audio-record the interview with your permission. My colleague..... *[name]* will take notes.

Please ask me any questions that you may have.

Do you agree to be interviewed?

Can I/we proceed?

Participant self-introduction

Please tell us/me about yourself.

Tuberculosis

1. When you have a health problem, what do you do as a young person?
 - a. Probe: *(If they do not go to the facility 1st)* How easy is it for you to go to the mentioned area and what are some of the challenges they face there?
 - b. Probe: How easy is it for you as a young man / young woman to visit the health facility and what are some of the challenges
 - c. Probe: How often do you visit the health facility?

2. Please describe how you first learnt that you had chest problems
 - a. Probe: What symptoms did you experience?
 - b. Probe: What did you think about the symptoms? **Probe: Did the fact that you are young influence what you thought about the symptoms? If yes, please explain.**
 - c. Probe: Did you feel any urgency to go to the health facility? If not perceived as urgent, why? When did you start thinking of seeking health services?
 - d. Probe: Where did you seek health services 1st? (e.g., public, private, chemist, traditional healer)
 - e. Probe: Did the fact that you are a **young man / young woman influence** what you did about the symptoms? If yes, please explain.
3. Experiences as a young woman/ young man in accessing healthcare services for TB?
 - a. Please tell me/us what happened when you visited the facility with chest problems
 - i. Probe: Who screened you?
 - ii. Probe: What happened after screening?
 - iii. Probe: Where was the TB test done? (e.g., public, private)
 - iv. Probe: **Did you go alone? Who came with you?**
 - v. Probe: What kind of test did they do?
 - vi. Probe: **How long did it take for you to get your results?**
 - vii. Probe: Did you have to come back for any reason before getting your results? (e.g., come back to provide additional sample)
 - viii. **Probe: How were the test results communicated?**
 - ix. Probe: How did you respond when they told you that you have TB? How did you feel? Did you believe the diagnosis? (Fear, relief etc)
 - x. Probe: Did you tell anybody about the TB diagnosis? If yes, whom did you tell? If no, why not?
 - xi. Probe: How did people respond when they learned that you have TB? (e.g., support, stigma, disbelief)
 - xii. **Probe: What did you like or not like about the whole process (screening, testing, communication of results)? Why?**
 - xiii. Probe: Were any of the challenges you faced related to the fact that you are young (adolescent or young adult)?

- xiv. Probe: Were any of the challenges you faced related to the fact that you are a woman/ man (participant gender)? If yes, please explain. Do you think it is different for young men/ young women (other gender)? Why?
- b. Please tell me/us about TB treatment (*Note. This will apply to patients who disengaged after treatment initiation*)
 - i. Probe: When did you start TB treatment (e.g., immediately, later). If delayed, what made you delay the treatment?
 - ii. Probe: How you have been receiving treatment for TB?
 - iii. Probe: How did you feel about taking medication?
 - iv. Probe: How often did you have to come to the health facility?
 - v. Probe: Did you experience any side effects?
 - vi. Probe: How did you know that you were getting better with treatment? (e.g., signs; healthcare worker communication)
 - vii. Probe: What did you like about the treatment? What did you not like? Why?
 - viii. Probe: What challenges did you face during treatment?
 - ix. **Probe: Did you feel like stopping medication at any point? what really happened?**
 - x. Probe: Were any of the challenges you faced related to the fact that you are young (adolescent or young adult)?
 - xi. Probe: Were any of the challenges you faced related to the fact that you are a young woman/ young man (participant gender)? If yes, please explain. Do you think it is different for young men/ young women (other gender)? Why?
 - xii. Probe: Did you have contact with other young people with TB during your treatment? How do their experiences compare to yours? Why are they similar? Why are they different?
 - xiii. Probe: Who helped you during treatment? How did they help you?
 - xiv. **Probe: Did you know about TB before you became sick? If yes, what did you know? If no proceed**
 - xv. When did you stop taking your medication? What led you to stop your medication, and how are you feeling now?
 - xvi. Did you start taking medication again? If yes, what made you start taking medication again
- 4. As a young man / young woman, what do you think should be done to improve services for TB for young people?

5. Do you have any questions for us?

Thank you so much. We appreciate you talking to us about your experiences. We wish you a good day. Please reach out if you think you would like to add something or have a question.