

Feasibility and effectiveness study of integrated screening and management of cutaneous NTM and contacts associated with the administration of a single double dose of rifampicin as post-exposure prophylaxis in people exposed to leprosy in Benin and Côte d'Ivoire (2PEP4LEP)

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PALS

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

I-IDENTIFICATION

No.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODES
A.	Name of the Treatment Centre	/ /
B.	Country name	/ /
C.	Department	/ /
D.	Town:	/ / /
E.	District:	/ / / /
F.	Neighbourhood/Village:	/ / /
G.	GPS coordinates	
H.	Type of environment (Urban=1, Rural=2)	/ /
I.	Surveyor's name	/ / / /
J.	Name of supervisor/team leader	/ /
K.	Name of Supervisor	/ /

O	Date of the survey / / / / / 2024	Duration: []H [] min
P	Survey start time / / H / / Min	
Q	Language of the interview	
R	Number of visits	

Hello Sir/Madam

My name is _____, I work for the Inter-Faculty Centre for Training and Research in Environment for Sustainable Development (CIFRED) at the University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), as part of the PPEP4LEP project. We are interviewing people here in [name of neighbourhood or village] to gather information on public health and neglected tropical diseases with skin manifestations (NTDs-SM).

You have been selected and I would like to ask you a few questions. I would appreciate it if you could answer them honestly. I have not come here with the intention of judging you or your behaviour. We simply want to learn more about public health issues and neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

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58 of Law No. 2022-07 of 27 June 2022 on the organisation and regulation of statistical activities in the Republic of Benin.

Your answers to this questionnaire will be kept strictly confidential. Therefore, no one will know how you answered. The interview will take approximately 20 minutes. Do you agree to take part in this study?

Yes=1 No=0

☐

Thank you

If yes



If not → End of interview

II-SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

No.	Questions and Instructions	Response options	Answers		Skips
			Yes	No	
101	Patient diagnosis (Interviewer, please specify the type(s) of condition)	a) Leprosy b) Scabies c) UB d) Pian e) Other MTN MC (Specify)	1 1 1 1 1	0 0 0 0 0	If 100a ≠ 1 END
102	Surname and first name				
103	Telephone number/Contact details of a relative				
104	Email				
105	How old are you?	In full years	/ / /		
106	Sex of respondent	1= Male 2= Female		/ /	
107	What is your level of education?	1= No education 2= Primary 3= Secondary 4= university		/ /	
108	What is your main occupation?	1= Farmer 2= Shopkeeper 3= Craftsman 4= Pupil/Student 5= Civil servant 6= Retired 7= Private sector employee 8= Self-employed 9= Clergy 99= Other (please specify)		/ /	
109	What is your current marital status?	1= Single 2= Married/ 3= Widowed 4= Divorced/Separated		/ /	
110	What is your nationality?	1=Benin 2= Togo 3=Burkina Faso 4=Niger 5=Nigeria 6=Other African countries 9=Other countries		/ /	If > 1 Go to Q10
111	What is your ethnic background?	1= Fon and related groups 2= Adja and related groups 3= Yoruba and related groups 4= Dendi and related groups 5= Bariba and related groups 6= Otammari and related 7= Berba and related groups		/ /	

No.	Questions and Instructions	Response options	Answers	Skips
		8= Fulani and related groups 9=Waama 10=Other (please specify)		
112	What is your religion?	1= Christian 2= Muslim 3= Indigenous 9= Other (please specify)	/___/	
113	Number of people living in the household	Female	F/___/___/	
		Male	M/___/___/	
		Total	T/___/___/	
114	Relationship to the head of household	1 = Head of household 2 = Parent 3 = Spouse 4 = Child 5 = Domestic helper 6 = Other household member 7 = No family relationship	/___/	
SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING				
115	Do you own the house you live in?	1= Yes 0= No	/___/	
116	Do you own any land?	1= Yes 0= No	/___/	
117	What is your main means of transport?	1. None 2. Wheelchair 3. Bicycle 4. Motorbike 5. Car 6. Horse-drawn cart 7. Motorboat 8. Canoe	/___/	
118	What is your main source of information?	1. None 2. Radio 3. Television 4. Newspaper / magazine 5. Social media 6. Town criers 7. Word of mouth	/___/	
119	What is your main means of communication?	1. Landline 2. Android 3. Letter	/___/	

No.	Questions and Instructions	Response options	Answers	Skips
		7. Tiles		
126	Main roofing material	1. Straw 2. Sheet metal 3. Tiles 4. Slab	/ ____ /	
127	Main wall material	1. Earth 2. Stone 3. Wood plank 4. Palm fronds / bamboo 5. Brick 6. Semi-hard (stabilised earth)	/ ____ /	
128	Number of bedrooms		/ ____ /	

III-DETAILS

ID DETAILS

No.	Questions and Instructions	How to answer	Answers	Skips
GENERAL INFORMATION				
129	How were you screened?	1=Active (By a healthcare worker) 2= Passive (I went to the health centre)	/ ____ /	
130	What signs prompted you to seek advice at a health centre? (MCQ)		Yes	No
		a) Numb patch of skin	1	0
		b) Sensory disturbances	1	0
		c) Signs of level 2 disability	1	0
131	Do you have a family history of leprosy?	d) Other (specify)	1	0
		1= Yes 0= No	/ ____ /	
KNOWLEDGE				
132	What are the causes of leprosy? (MCQ) (Multiple answers possible)		Yes	No
		a) Witchcraft/Curses	1	0
		b) Divine punishment/curse	1	0
		c) Poor hygiene and sanitation	1	0
		d) Don't know	1	0
		e) Other (please specify)	1	0
133	What are the early signs of leprosy? (MCQ) (Multiple answers possible)		Yes	No
		a) Numb patch of skin	1	0
		b) Sensory disturbances	1	0
		c) Skin and neurological signs	1	0
		d) Large nerves	1	0
		e) Other (please specify)		
134	How is leprosy treated?		Yes	No

No.	Questions and Instructions	How to answer		Answers	Skips
	(Multiple choice) <i>(Multiple answers are possible)</i>	a) Traditional	1	0	
		b) Medical	1	0	
		c) Spiritual	1	0	
		d) Self-medication	1	0	
		e) Other (please specify)	1	0	
135	What are the complications of leprosy? (MCQ) <i>(Multiple answers possible)</i>	a) Disability	1	0	
		b) None	1	0	
		c) Deaths	1	0	
		d) Disability	1	0	
		e) Other (please specify)	1	0	
136	How is leprosy transmitted? (MCQ) <i>(Multiple answers are possible)</i>		Yes	No	
		a) Through direct contact with an infected person	1	0	
		b) Through the air	1	0	
		c) Via microbes	1	0	
		d) Through contact with contaminated objects	1	0	
		e) Through unknown means	1	0	
		f) Don't know	1	0	
		g) Other (please specify)	1	0	

IV. LATE DETECTION (WHO DISABILITY SCALE)

180	Is this a case of late detection?	1=Yes 2=No	/____/
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V. Stigma Scale from the Explanatory Model Interview Catalogue (EMIC), adapted for people with leprosy Now we are going to ask you some questions about prejudices, attitudes or negative perceptions towards others or yourself. Please tick only one answer per item.						
		Yes	Maybe	Not sure	No	
		3	2	1	0	Score
229	If possible, would you prefer to keep people from knowing about leprosy?					
230	Have you discussed this problem with the person you consider closest to you, the one whom you usually feel you can talk to most easily?	0	1	2	3	
231	Do you think less of yourself because of this problem? Has it reduced your pride or self-respect?					
232	Have you ever been made to feel ashamed or embarrassed because of this problem?					
233	Do your neighbours, colleagues or others in your community have less respect for you because of this problem?					
234	Do you think that contact with you might have any bad effects on others around you even after you have been treated?					
235	Do you feel others have avoided you because of this problem?					
236	Would some people refuse to visit your home because of this condition even after you have been treated?					
237	If they knew about it would your neighbours, colleagues or others in your community think less of your family because of this problem?					

238	Do you feel that your problem might cause social problems for your children in the community?					
239a	Do you feel that this disease has caused problems in getting married?					
239b	Do you feel that this disease has caused problems in your marriage?					
240	Do you feel that this disease makes it difficult for someone else in your family to marry?					
241	Have you been asked to stay away from work or social groups?					
242	Have you decided on your own to stay away from work or social group?					
243	Because of leprosy people think you also have other health problems?					

Thank you very much for your time and your valuable contributions to this interview.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CLOSE CONTACTS

Study of the feasibility and effectiveness of integrated screening and management of skin-manifesting NTMs and associated contacts through the administration of a single double dose of rifampicin as post-exposure prophylaxis in people exposed to leprosy in Benin and Côte d'Ivoire

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CLOSE CONTACTS

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

I-IDENTIFICATION

No.	QUESTIONS AND FILTERS	CODES
L.	Country name	/ /
M.	Department	/ /
N.	Town:	/ / /
O.	District:	/ / / /
P.	Neighbourhood/Village:	/ / /
Q.	GPS coordinates	
R.	Type of environment (Urban=1, Rural=2)	/ /
S.	Surveyor's name	/ / /
T.	Name of supervisor/team leader	/ /
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O	Date of the survey /__ /__ /__ /__ / 2024	Duration: []H [] min [] []
P	Survey start time /__ /__ / H /__ /__ / Min	
Q	Language of the interview	
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Hello Sir/Madam

My name is _____, I work for the Inter-Faculty Centre for Training and Research in Environment for Sustainable Development (CIFRED) at the University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC), as part of the 2PEP4LEP project. We are interviewing people here in [*name of neighbourhood or village*] to gather information on public health and neglected tropical diseases with skin manifestations (NTDs-SM).

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Yes=1 No=0

☐

Thank you

If yes



If no → End of interview

No.	Questions and Instructions	How to answer	Answers	Skips
II-Sociodemographic and economic characteristics				
101	Surname and first name			
102	Telephone number/Contact details of a relative			
103	How old are you?	In years	/__ __/	
104	Sex of respondent	1= Male 2= Female	/___/	
105	What is your level of education?	1= No education 2= Primary 3= Secondary 4= Higher education	/___/	
106	What is your main occupation?	1= Farmer 2= Shopkeeper 3= Craftsman 4= Pupil/Student 5= Civil servant 6= Retired 7= Private sector employee 8= Self-employed 9= Clergy 99= Other (please specify)	/___/	
107	What is your current marital status?	1= Single 2= Married 3= Widowed 4= Divorced/Separated	/___/	
108	What is your nationality?	1=Benin 2= Togo 3=Burkina Faso 4=Niger 5=Nigeria 6=Other African countries 9=Other countries	/___/	If > 1 Go to Q9
109	What is your ethnic group?	1= Fon and related groups 2= Adja and related groups 3= Yoruba and related groups	/___/	

No.	Questions and Instructions	How to answer	Answers	Skips
		4= Dendi and related groups 5= Bariba and related groups 6= Otammari and related species 7= Berba and related groups 8= Fulani and related groups 9= Waama 99=Other (please specify)		
110	Where do you live?	1= Urban 2= Rural	/____/	
111	What is your religion?	1= Christian 2= Muslim 3= Indigenous 4= Atheist 5= Other (please specify)_____	/____/	

SOCIO-ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE CASE				
112	Do you own the house you live in?	1= Yes 0= No	/____/	
113	Do you own any land?	1= Yes 0= No	/____/	
114	What is your main means of transport?	9. None 10. Wheelchair 11. Bicycle 12. Motorbike 13. Car 14. Horse-drawn cart 15. Motorboat 16. Canoe	/____/	
114	What is your main source of information?	8. None 9. Radio 10. Television	/____/	

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115	What is your main means of communication?	5. Landline 6. Android 7. Letter 8. None	/ ____ /																																																										
116	How many of the following functional items do you or someone in your household have? Multiple-choice (Read out the options and enter the number for each item. Enter '00' in the boxes if no one in the household owns the item.) (Interviewer, multiple answers are possible; follow up with the respondent as necessary)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Yes</th> <th>No</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>s) Adult bicycle</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>t) Motorbike</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>u) Car</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>v) Lorry</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>w) Radio</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>x) Television</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>y) Video or DVD player</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>z) Fridge</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>aa) Stereo system</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>bb) Woofer</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>cc) Freezer</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>dd) Cooker</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>ee) Fan</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>ff) Electric iron</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>gg) Air conditioner</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>hh) Moulinex</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>ii) Corn mill</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>jj) Mobile phone/smartphone</td><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Yes	No	s) Adult bicycle	1	0	t) Motorbike	1	0	u) Car	1	0	v) Lorry	1	0	w) Radio	1	0	x) Television	1	0	y) Video or DVD player	1	0	z) Fridge	1	0	aa) Stereo system	1	0	bb) Woofer	1	0	cc) Freezer	1	0	dd) Cooker	1	0	ee) Fan	1	0	ff) Electric iron	1	0	gg) Air conditioner	1	0	hh) Moulinex	1	0	ii) Corn mill	1	0	jj) Mobile phone/smartphone	1	0		
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jj) Mobile phone/smartphone	1	0																																																											
117	What is your main source of lighting?	5. Kerosene lamp 6. Battery-powered lamp 7. Electricity 8. Solar panel	/ ____ /																																																										
118	What is your main source of energy for cooking?	7. Wood embers 8. Firewood 9. Charcoal 10. Petrol stove 11. Gas 12. Electricity	/ ____ /																																																										
119	What is your main source of drinking water?	6. Tap water 7. Borehole 8. Borehole 9. Surface water 10. Cistern	/ ____ /																																																										
120	Toilet types	1. Type 2. Communal 3. External private 4. Internal toilets	/ ____ /																																																										

121	Main flooring material	8. Sand 9. Manure 10. Wooden planks 11. Palm fronds / bamboo 12. Polished wood 13. Cement 14. Tiles	/ ____ /	
122	Main roofing material	5. Straw 6. Sheet metal 7. Tiles 8. Slab	/ ____ /	
123	Main wall material	7. Earth 8. Stone 9. Wooden planks 10. Palm fronds / bamboo 11. Brick 12. Semi-hard (stabilised earth)	/ ____ /	
124	Number of bedrooms		/ ____ /	

III. KNOWLEDGE

We now turn to questions relating to the respondent's knowledge

No	Questions and Instructions	Response options		Answers	Skips
125	What are the causes of leprosy? (MCQ) <i>(Multiple answers are possible)</i>		Yes	No	
		f) Witchcraft/Curses	1	0	
		g) Divine punishment/curse	1	0	
		h) Poor Hygiene and Sanitation	1	0	
		i) Don't know	1	0	
		j) Other (please specify)	1	0	
126	What are the early signs of leprosy? (MCQ) <i>(Multiple answers are possible)</i>		Yes	No	
		f) Numb patch of skin	1	0	
		g) Sensory disturbances	1	0	
		h) Skin and neurological signs	1	0	
		i) Large nerves	1	0	
		j) Other (please specify)			

No	Questions and Instructions	Response options		Answers	Skips
127	How is leprosy treated? (Multiple choice) <i>(Multiple answers possible)</i>		Yes	No	
		f) Traditional	1	0	
		g) Medical	1	0	
		h) Spiritual	1	0	
		i) Self-medication			
		j) Other (please specify)	1	0	
128	What are the complications of leprosy? (MCQ) <i>(Multiple answers are possible)</i>	f) Disability	1	0	
		g) None	1	0	
		h) Deaths	1	0	
		i) Disability	1	0	
		j) Other (please specify)	1	0	
129	How is leprosy transmitted? (Multiple choice) <i>(Multiple answers are possible)</i>		Yes	No	
		h) Through direct contact with an infected person	1	0	
		i) Through the air	1	0	
		j) Via microbes	1	0	
		k) Through contact with contaminated objects	1	0	
		l) Through unknown means	1	0	
		m) Don't know	1	0	
		n) Other (please specify)	1	0	

IV. Community Stigma Scale (Explanatory Model Interview Catalogue – EMIC), adapted for leprosy

We are now going to ask you some questions about any prejudices, attitudes or negative perceptions you may have towards people with the condition.

Please tick only one answer per item

		Yes	Sometimes	No	Don't know	
		2	1	0	0	Score
157	Would a person with leprosy keep others from knowing, if possible?					
158	If a member of your family had leprosy, would you think less of yourself, because of this person's problem?					
159	In your community, does leprosy cause shame or embarrassment?					
160	Would others think less of a person with leprosy?					
161	Would knowing that someone has leprosy have an adverse effect on others?					
162	Would other people in your community avoid a person affected by leprosy?					
163	Would others refuse to visit the home of a person affected by leprosy?					
164	Would people in your community think less of the family of a person with leprosy?					
165	Would leprosy cause problems for the family?					
166	Would a family have concern about disclosure if one of their members had leprosy?					
167	Would leprosy be a problem for a person to get married?					

		Yes	Sometimes	No	Don't know	
		2	1	0	0	Score
168	Would leprosy cause problems in an on-going marriage?					
169	Would having leprosy cause a problem for a relative of that person to get married?					
170	Would having leprosy cause difficulty for a person to find work?					
171	Would people dislike buying food from a person affected by leprosy?					

Thank you very much for your time and your valuable contributions to this interview.

GUIDE FOR INTERVIEWS WITH PALS

Feasibility and effectiveness study of integrated screening and management of skin-manifestation NTMs and contacts associated with the administration of a single double dose of rifampicin as post-exposure prophylaxis in people exposed to leprosy in Benin and Côte d'Ivoire (2PEP4LEP)

Interview guide on self-stigmatisation related to the disease

1. Identification

- 1.1. Name of Treatment Centre
- 1.2. Country name _____
- 1.3. Department _____
- 1.4. Town: _____
- 1.5. District: _____
- 1.6. Neighbourhood/Village: _____
- 1.7. Type of area _____
- 1.8. Name of interviewer _____
- 1.9. Sex of respondent _____
- 1.10. Age of respondent _____
- 1.11. Respondent's level of education _____
- 1.12. Marital status of respondent _____

2. General

- 2.1. Tell me a little about yourself and your family (daily life, support networks, lifestyle, work, leisure activities, difficulties, etc.).

3. Context of the disease

- 3.1. Social perceptions of leprosy (what does leprosy represent here? What do people call it here? How is it transmitted? Gender)
- 3.2. How do people view someone with leprosy?
- 3.3. Tell me about your experience with the disease so far (describe everything that has happened from diagnosis to the present)?

4. Difficulties relating to self-esteem and dignity

- 4.1. How has the disease affected your self-esteem?
- 4.2. What changes have you noticed in the way you perceive yourself since the onset of the disease?

5. Feelings associated with the disease

- 5.1. What feelings (shame, guilt, etc.) have you experienced in relation to your health?
- 5.2. How do you manage to overcome them? Who supports you in this struggle?

6. Changes in social and professional life

- 6.1. What changes have you noticed in your social relationships since becoming ill?
- 6.2. How has the illness affected your life (in terms of parenting, family life, work, etc.)?

7. Avoidance and protective behaviours

- 7.1. What behaviours have you adopted to avoid the stigma associated with the illness?
- 7.2. How do you manage your relationships with those around you to avoid spreading the illness?
- 7.3. Are there any activities you avoid doing because of the illness?

8. Coping and resilience strategies

- 8.1. What do you do to cope with self-stigma and the negative feelings associated with the illness?
- 8.2. What coping mechanisms or personal resources have you developed to maintain your self-esteem despite prejudice?
- 8.3. What resources or support (human, financial, material) help you get through difficult times?

9. What lessons have you learnt from your experience with this illness?

10. Suggestions for addressing the difficulties encountered in managing the illness

Thank you very much for your time and your valuable contributions to this interview.

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR CLOSE CONTACTS

Study of the feasibility and effectiveness of integrated screening and management of cutaneous NTMs and associated contacts through the administration of a single double dose of rifampicin as post-exposure prophylaxis in people exposed to leprosy in Benin and Côte d'Ivoire (2PEP4LEP)

Interview guide on stigma among close contacts

11. Identification

- 11.1. Name of Treatment Centre _____
- 11.2. Country name _____
- 11.3. Department _____
- 11.4. Town: _____
- 11.5. District: _____
- 11.6. Neighbourhood/Village: _____
- 11.7. Type of area _____
- 11.8. Surveyor's name _____
- 11.9. Sex of respondent _____
- 11.10. Age of respondent _____
- 11.11. Respondent's level of education _____
- 11.12. Marital status of respondent _____

12. General

- 12.1. Tell me a little about yourself and your family (daily life, support networks, lifestyle, work, leisure, difficulties, etc.).
- 12.2. Knowledge of leprosy (definition, mode of transmission, people at risk)

13. Perceptions of leprosy (Views on a person with leprosy (yourself, other people, gender))

14. Attitudes towards leprosy (interviewer: explore aspects relating to marriage, friendship, employment, celebrations, etc.)

15. Behaviour towards a person with leprosy (interviewer: explore aspects related to marriage, friendship, employment, celebrations, etc.)

16. Difficulties in relation to a person with leprosy

17. Opportunities regarding a person with leprosy

18. Suggestions for addressing the difficulties

Thank you very much for your time and your valuable contributions to this interview.

FOCUS GROUP GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS

FOCUS GROUP GUIDE ON STIGMA RELATED TO LEPROSY

The purpose of this guide is to facilitate in-depth discussions on stigma, rejection and restrictions on the social participation of people affected by leprosy and their families.

Rules for discussion

- Respect for others' views
- Freedom not to answer
- Confidentiality
- One person speaks at a time
- Phones on silent

Possible targets

- Community members
- Religious/traditional leaders
- Teachers / health workers
- Young people / women / men

A. Knowledge and beliefs about leprosy

Objective: to understand what people know or think about leprosy.

1. Can you tell me what you know or have heard about leprosy?
2. How do you think a person can catch leprosy?
3. What makes you think that some people are more at risk than others?
4. How do people in your community view the possibility of a cure?
5. What stories, beliefs or rumours are circulating about leprosy in your community?

6. In your opinion, where do these ideas come from (personal experience, traditions, religion, the media, healthcare workers, etc.)?

B. Social perceptions of people affected by leprosy

Objective: to analyse how the community views people with leprosy.

1. If you had to describe a person with leprosy, how would you describe them?
2. How does the community react when it learns that someone has leprosy?
3. Are there differences in how men and women with the disease are perceived?
4. What is the general view of someone who has been cured?

C. Attitudes towards people with leprosy

Objective: to identify feelings and prejudices.

1. How do you personally feel about the idea of living alongside someone with leprosy?
2. How do people here react when a neighbour, colleague or member of a social group has leprosy?
3. What makes it easy or difficult to accept a person with leprosy in social activities?
4. If a member of your family had leprosy, how would that change your relationships?

D. Actual community attitudes towards people with leprosy

Objective: to move beyond rhetoric and observe reality.

1. Have you ever witnessed situations where a person with leprosy has been rejected or treated differently?
2. Can you tell me what happened?
3. How do people justify these attitudes or behaviours?
4. In your opinion, what are the most common forms of rejection in your community?

E. Family, relationships and marriage

Objective: to analyse the social and personal impact.

1. How does leprosy affect relationships within couples or families?
2. What happens when a person with leprosy wants to get married? (E.g. If it were your brother/sister/son/daughter, would you accept this marriage? Why?)
3. How does the community react to marriages involving a person with leprosy?
4. Have you ever heard of cases of divorce or break-ups due to leprosy? (*Explain your answer*)
5. How are the children of people with leprosy perceived or treated?

F. Work and the economy

Objective: to examine the economic consequences.

1. What difficulties might a person with leprosy face in finding or keeping a job?
2. How do customers or colleagues react when they find out that someone is or has been ill?
3. Do people refuse to buy or use the products sold by the person with leprosy or a member of their family? (*Explain your answer*)
4. Has anyone ever been refused a job because of the disease? (*Explain your answer*)
5. What types of economic activities still seem accessible to these people?

G. Institutions

Objective: to assess the role of schools, officials, health services and others.

1. How do health workers or public services treat people with the condition?
2. How do schools or teachers react to the children of those affected?
3. What do you expect from officials, local authorities or NGOs to reduce discrimination against people affected by leprosy?

H. Emotional and psychological

Objective: to understand the psychological and emotional experiences of people affected by leprosy.

1. In your opinion, how does a person with leprosy feel about the way others look at them?
2. What do you think causes them the most distress?
3. Why do some people prefer to hide their illness?
4. What emotions do you feel when you think about these people's situation?

I. Opportunities and positive examples

Objective: to highlight positive examples and factors that promote inclusion.

1. Do you know of any positive stories of people with the condition who have overcome the stigma?
2. What do you think helped them integrate?
3. What attitudes or behaviours help people with the condition feel accepted?

J. Recommendations and solutions

Objective: to gather concrete proposals for reducing stigma.

1. What needs to change so that people with leprosy are better accepted?
2. What concrete actions could the community take?
3. Who could or should play a key role in changing attitudes towards people with leprosy and their families?
4. What kinds of messages or activities are most effective in raising awareness here?

Thank you for agreeing to speak with us. Do you have any further comments to share with us?