

Individual In-Depth Interview Guide: TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANTS

Interview Schedule

Interviewer Comments:

Interviewer code _____

Date _____

District _____ Location _____

Venue _____

Time: from _____ to _____

**IN-DEPTH INTERVIEW WITH TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANT WHO HAS
ATTENDED A DELIVERY WITHIN PAST SIX MONTHS**

Respondent Code:	Name:
Address/Location:	Household Composition:
Age: (<20) (21-30) (31-40) (41-50) (>51)	Gender: (Male) (Female)
Distance to facility w/ maternity: (less than 5km) (more than 5km)	Closest facility w/ surgical capacity:
TBA Training Status: (Untrained) (Trained by: _____)	Ethnicity:
Occupation:	Religion:
Date of last assisted delivery: (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) month(s) ago	Number of births assisted per month:

Research Objectives:

- A. To find out TBAs understanding of skilled care vs. traditional care
- B. To investigate TBA perspectives on women’s current preferences for birth attendant and location, and the barriers and motivations to increasing skilled attendance
- C. To investigate focused areas of TBA knowledge, skills, and practice, only as relevant to TBA recognition of major obstetric complications, and current practice of TBAs in treating or referring when these situations occur
- D. To find out TBA perspective on reasons behind household and community level delays in seeking skilled care for normal births and in obstetric emergencies
- E. To find out TBA perspectives on factors influencing timely receipt of quality obstetric care at facilities; their perception of facility/provider barriers, motivators, willingness of providers to change
- F. To find out TBAs’ awareness of the need for and content of early postpartum care (at 1 and 2 weeks following birth); when and what TBAs do now during first week after birth
- G. To identify TBAs’ understanding of who comprises their own social networks and how these social networks might be best used to rapidly spread information about improved obstetric care practices

Say: This is part of a study to learn more about how we can help women be healthier in pregnancy and childbirth. We want to ask you about TBAs' ideas on how communities can keep women healthy, because we know you are very important during childbirth.

BIRTH PREPAREDNESS

Notes for the Interviewer

Key ideas to explore:

- How do TBAs view preparations that women and their families make for childbirth?
- How are TBAs involved in birth-preparedness?

Questions to ask:

1. What preparations do women and their families make for childbirth?

Who is involved? When do they make these arrangements?

2. As a TBA, what do you do to help women prepare for childbirth?

What do you discuss with women and/or their families during pregnancy? Do you ever advise them to purchase any items or set money aside in advance? If so, do they usually comply?

3. Do you ever help prepare a pregnant woman to give birth in a health facility?

If yes: What do you do? How do you advise her?

If no: Why not? If a woman was planning to deliver in a health facility and asked for your assistance, would you be willing to help her?

4. Do women ever come see you during their pregnancies for check-ups?

What do you do? Why? What advice do you give them?

SKILLED CARE AT CHILDBIRTH

Notes for the Interviewer

Key ideas to explore:

- How do TBAs view women and families preferences for birth location and attendant?
- What do TBAs think about assisting deliveries in a health facility?

Questions to ask:

5. What do you do to help women during delivery?

How do you help her feel more comfortable? Do you offer her any traditional medicines? What? Why?

6. In your opinion, where do women in your community prefer to give birth?

Why? Do women, men, and elder females hold different preferences? Why?

7. How would you describe the women in your community who deliver with TBAs?

Are they at all different from the women who deliver in health facilities (if there are no complications)? How so? What do you think women like most about delivering with TBAs? What do they like most about delivering at a health facility?

8. Right now, do you and other TBAs get paid to assist in childbirth?

What kinds of payment do you usually receive? How much? Do women usually pay immediately? What do you do if they are too poor to pay?

9. Have you ever assisted a woman during childbirth in a health facility for a normal delivery?

If yes: What happened?

If no: If a woman asked you to help her in this way, would you be willing to? Why/ why not?

10. If a TBA brings a woman to a health facility, but does not conduct the delivery, does she get paid?

If yes, how much? If no, do you think she should get paid? How much?

SKILLED CARE FOR OBSTETRIC EMERGENCIES

Notes for the Interviewer

Key ideas to explore:

- What do TBAs know about obstetric complications?
- How do TBAs handle obstetric emergencies?
- What is the TBA perspective on factors influencing timely receipt of quality obstetric care at the facility?

Say: Some women experience complications in late pregnancy, childbirth and the first weeks after delivery. It would be helpful to hear more about these problems.

Questions to ask:

11. Around here, what types of complications can women have?

Complications during late pregnancy? During childbirth? During the first few weeks?

12. Out of all these problems, which do you think are the most serious?

For each problem ask:

- a) Do you know what causes that problem?
- b) What can happen to the woman who has this problem?
- c) How do TBAs usually manage problems like that occur?

13. Have you ever seen a woman with any of these problems?

If yes, ask:

- a) Were you already assisting her with her delivery when she developed this problem or did she come to you after the problem had started?
- b) How did you know that it was not a normal delivery? What made you think that something was wrong?
- c) Did you do anything to treat her problem? What? Why?
- d) Were you able to help her? How so?

If no: Have you thought about what you would do if you saw a woman with one of these problems? What? Why?

14. Do you ever refer women to health facilities?

If yes: Under what circumstances do you decide to refer a woman? To which facilities do you make referrals? Why? Do you accompany women to (this facility/ these facilities)? Do you help families make arrangements to get there? How so? Have you ever experienced a situation where you referred a woman to a facility because she had a complication, but she did not manage to reach the facility in time? What happened?

If no: Why not? Do you ever refer women to other places or providers? Where? Why?

15. What happens when a woman with complications arrives at a health facility?

How long does she have to wait to be seen? Is the staff friendly to her, her family, and the TBA or anyone else who is with her? In your view, how prepared to assist women with complications during delivery?

16. If a TBA accompanies a woman experiencing a problem to a health facility, how does the staff there treat her?

Do they treat her with respect? Do they say anything to her? What?

17. Do TBAs get paid more if the woman experiences a complication and the TBA manages it well?

What kinds of payment might she receive? How much? Do women usually pay immediately? What do you do if they are too poor to pay?

EARLY POSTPARTUM CARE

Notes for the Interviewer

Key ideas to explore:

- What are current TBA practices during the first and second weeks after birth?
- Is there a perceived need for routine early postpartum care after perceived normal birth, if no problems are detected in new mother or newborn? What kind of care?
- Is there a perceived need for early postpartum care if complications are detected in new mother or newborn? What kind of care?
- What are TBA perspectives on and roles in increasing use of skilled postpartum care at home in the community or in a facility?

Say: We talked about preparing for birth, and about giving birth. Now I would like to ask you a few questions about the time right after birth.

Questions to ask:

18. How long do you usually stay with the new mother after birth?

What do you do? For the woman? For the newborn? Why?

19. Do you follow up with women whom you have assisted during childbirth?

How long after the delivery do you see them again? How often? What do you do during these visits? For the woman? For the newborn? Why? Do you charge anything to follow up with women after childbirth? How much? Do women usually pay immediately? What do you do if they are too poor to pay?

20. In your opinion, if a woman has a normal delivery and a healthy baby and feels well, should she go for a check-up at a health facility?

If yes: Why? Do you encourage them to go? How could more women be encouraged to go to a health facility for a check-up?

If no: Why not? Should she get a check-up with anyone else, like a TBA?

SOCIAL NETWORKS/ COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Notes for the Interviewer

Key ideas to explore:

- What are social networks of TBAs?

Questions to ask:

21. Do you know other TBAs?

Do you ever get together in a group with these other TBAs? Why/why not? If you do meet them, what happens during these meetings? Is there any particular TBA that you admire and listen to? Who? Why? Is there anybody else you admire and listen to? *Probe for community leader, community based health worker, etc.*

22. Does anyone from a health facility visit you?

If yes: Who? How often? What is the content/ purpose of these visits? Is there any additional support or information you wish that they would give you?

If no: What would help TBAs do a better job and feel more supported?

23. Does anyone in your community register births?

If yes: Are you involved in this? Do you have any ideas of how could we improve this?

If no: Have they ever before? If so, what happened? Is this an activity that you would support?

Say: Thank you for answering all our questions about giving birth. Your answers have been helpful. Maybe you have thought of something that we have left out. Is there anything else that you'd like to tell me/ us about your experience?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TAKING THE TIME TO TALK TO ME/US.