

Supplemental Information

QUALITATIVE INTERVIEW GUIDE: BARRIERS TO ADHD TREATMENT V.1.1

This interview guide is intended to help assist interviewers with navigating key content areas of data collection for the individual qualitative interviews, ensuring the same content is discussed in each interview. Although the guide is used to assist with the discussion, it is not a rigid script that will be adhered to verbatim. This ensures that interviewers have the ability to adapt and clarify questions that suit the needs of different patients. Similarly, questions need not be asked in this particular order. Rather, the interviewer will adapt the conversation as needed according to the narrative within each interview, pursuing a priori research topics as well as any emergent themes that evolve from the discussion.

“We have invited you to participate in this study because you are a parent of a child with ADHD or a parent of a preschool-aged child with ADHD symptoms. We are trying to learn how to better support children with ADHD and their parents. To do this, we are asking parents to share their experiences.”

EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE

1. “Tell me about the experience of learning your child has ADHD.”
 - a. “How was your child diagnosed with ADHD?” (Probe: “Who was involved?” “Who identified symptoms? If there was hesitation to get a diagnosis, why?”)
 - b. “What are reasons why some parents hesitate to pursue an ADHD diagnosis?”

- c. “How have you learned about ADHD?” (Probe: “Or from whom ...?”)
 - d. “What do you wish you had learned earlier?”
 - e. “What are some questions you still have about ADHD?”
 - f. “Tell me about anything you feel was missing during the process of diagnosing your child with ADHD.” Additional probing (if the parent indicates that they wanted to get their child diagnosed with ADHD despite others noticing symptoms): “How did others telling you about your child’s symptoms affect or impact you? Was it helpful? At what point did you get your child checked out for ADHD?”
2. “Tell me about the experience of getting help for your child’s ADHD.”
 - a. “What treatments and services has your child received?” (Probe: medication, therapy, school services:)
 - b. “How have you made decisions about your child’s care?”
 - c. “Who has helped you to make treatment decisions?” (Probe: “Or what has helped ...?”)
 - d. “Give me an example of something that was positive about the process of getting care.”
 - e. “How about something that was negative?”
 - f. “What would you tell other parents about getting help for their child with ADHD?”
 3. If applicable, “Tell me about the experiences of having more than one child with ADHD.”
 - a. “Give me an example of something that was difficult the first time and easier the second. Give me an example of something that is still difficult.”
 - b. “How did already having a child with ADHD affect your second and/or third child’s diagnosis and treatment process?”
 - c. “How does having a sibling with ADHD affect how your child feels about their own ADHD?”

BARRIERS TO CARE

1. “Tell me about any difficulties you have had getting your child help for ADHD.”
 - a. “What makes it difficult for you to get care for your child’s ADHD?” (Probe: eg, “Keeping appointments? Getting medication? Getting extra help at school?”)
 - b. “How has your child’s race affected their care?”
 - c. “How has your child’s ethnicity or culture affected their care?”
 - d. “How have financial factors affected your child’s treatment?”
 - e. “What has helped you to overcome difficulties to getting your child treatment?”
 - f. “How could health care professionals help you overcome difficulties getting your child treatment?”
 - g. “What would help you to feel more involved in your child’s treatment?”

STIGMA

1. “Tell me about your feelings and attitudes toward ADHD.”
 - a. “How do you feel about your child’s ADHD?”

- b. "How do you feel about ADHD treatment?" (probe: "medication")
 - c. "How does your child's ADHD affect your relationship with your child?" (Probe: "How does your child's ADHD affect how you treat or discipline your child? Compared with their siblings?")
 - d. "How does having ADHD affect how your child feels about him or herself?" (Probe: "What does your child know about their ADHD diagnosis? What have you told them? How did they learn about their ADHD? Experience talking to child about ADHD and medication?")
 - e. "What fears and concerns do you have about your child's future with ADHD?" (Probe: "How do concerns about ADHD affect how you talk to your child about their ADHD?")
 - f. "How has your cultural background affected your opinions about ADHD?"
2. "Tell me about the feelings and attitudes of the people around you about ADHD."
- a. "How have you or your child been treated differently by others because of your child's ADHD?" (Probe: "Have you or has your child felt judged? Blamed?")
 - b. "Describe any situations when you have felt judged

or blamed by others about your child's ADHD treatment" (probe: "medication")

- c. "How has worry about being judged by others affected decisions about your child's treatment?"

ENVIRONMENT

1. "How has your child been emotionally affected by anything in their environment? Specifically, how has your child been affected by the following:
 - a. "your family's financial situation;"
 - b. "your neighborhood;"
 - c. "difficulty making ends meet or meeting your family's needs (eg, for food, clothes, housing, etc);"
 - d. "stressful events in your child's life;"
 - e. "the health and well-being of adults in your household;" and
 - f. "your child's school or classroom environment?"
 - g. "How has your child's environment and any stressful events affected their attention and hyperactivity?"
2. "How have after-school activities (eg, sports, teams, organizations) affected your child's ADHD symptoms and behaviors? How has your child's ADHD affected their after-school activities?"

(Probe: "Impact on choice of activities? Experience?")

INTERVENTION QUESTIONS

"We are designing a program for clinics to help doctors and other health care providers better support families whose children have ADHD. We would like your advice about this program."

1. "What do you propose we do, as health care providers, to better support parents and families of children with ADHD?"
2. "What could we do to reduce the stigma (or negative attitudes) associated with ADHD?" (Probe: "How can we reduce the stigma associated with ADHD for parents who don't have a child with ADHD? Parents with a child who was just diagnosed with ADHD?")
3. "How could we make it easier to get ADHD treatment of patients and families?" (Probe: "How has your experience getting care been easier or harder for you compared with other parents?")
4. "How would you want to receive more information about ADHD?" (eg, from your doctor, another health care provider, the Internet, other parents with children who have ADHD, etc)