

**Improving Surveillance Data Collection among Persons Not Receiving HIV  
Care: A Qualitative Project to Enhance the Medical Monitoring Project  
(MMP)**

**Attachment #1  
Interview Guide**

CDC estimates the average public reporting burden for this collection of information as 60 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data/information sources, gathering and maintaining the data/information needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to CDC/ATSDR Information Collection Review Office, 1600 Clifton Road NE, SD-74, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; ATTN: PRA (0920-0840).

## Opening Question

1. What do you think about access to healthcare for people living with HIV?

## Core Questions

### Managing health

2. What does being healthy mean to you? What do you think it means to be healthy while living with HIV?
3. What do you do to keep yourself healthy?

#### *Probe topics:*

- *Medications or supplements*
- *Physical activity*
- *Diet*
- *Other non-medical types of health care*

4. When you feel sick, what do you do to take care of yourself?
5. When you hear the term "HIV care," what comes to mind?

#### *Probe topic:*

- *Engagement in care*

6. When did you last visit a healthcare provider for your HIV?

#### *Probe topics:*

- *Type of healthcare provider*
- *Type of care facility*

7. What have you been told, if anything, about how often you should see a healthcare provider for your HIV? Do you agree or disagree? Why?

#### *Probe topics:*

- *Too little or too often*

### Barriers, facilitators and motivators

8. What would make you *not* want to visit a healthcare provider for your HIV?

#### *Probe topics:*

- *Lack of transportation*
- *Relationship with healthcare provider and staff*
- *Feeling well*
- *Work schedule*

- *Stigma*

9. What would make you want to visit a healthcare provider for your HIV?

*Probe topics:*

- *Feeling ill*
- *Length of time since last seen a provider*
- *Medication prescription*

10. What are some of the best experiences you have had visiting a healthcare provider for your HIV?

*Probe topics:*

- *Felt better*
- *Learned new things about health*
- *Medication prescription*

11. What are some of the worst experiences you have had visiting a healthcare provider for your HIV?

*Probe topics:*

- *Regrets*
- *Interaction with healthcare provider/staff*

12. What would help you visit a healthcare provider for your HIV?

*Probe topics:*

- *Insurance/money*
- *Transportation*
- *Convenient clinic hours*
- *Ease of scheduling appointments*
- *Stigma*
- *Social support*

13. Let's say, you visited a healthcare provider more often than you do now. How would your life be different than it is now? What would be different? Why?

*Probe topics:*

- *Health*
- *Sexual/romantic life*
- *Financial/work hours loss*

14. Think about all the things in your life that you need to take care of. What are some things going on in your life that make it difficult to visit a healthcare provider for your HIV?

15. If you wanted to visit a healthcare provider for your HIV tomorrow, what would you have to do to make that happen? Walk me through the things you would have to think about.

*Probe topics:*

- *Transportation*
- *Insurance/money*
- *Time off work*
- *Getting help with personal responsibilities such as childcare*

Relationship Implications

I'm going to ask some questions about your sexual and romantic life. I am interested in learning about how getting HIV medical care may affect your relationships. If you don't feel comfortable answering any of the questions, just let me know and we can skip them.

16. Sometimes visiting a healthcare provider or not visiting a healthcare provider might affect a person's decisions about meeting new people, dating, sex, and relationships. Have your decisions about getting medical care for HIV had any effect on your sexual or romantic relationships? How so?

*Probe topics:*

- *Abstinence*
- *Condom use*
- *Not dating*
- *Prep*
- *Serosorting*
- *Disclosure*
- *Ending relationship*
- *Partner communication-encouraged to visit healthcare provider*

17. Research has suggested that taking HIV medicines as prescribed and having an undetectable HIV viral load makes it very unlikely that you could give HIV to another person through sex. What do you think about this? Does that play a role in your decision to visit a healthcare provider for your HIV? How so?

Recruitment

Now, we are going to shift our discussion a little bit and talk about how you were contacted to participate in the Medical Monitoring Project. When I say MMP, I am talking about the Medical Monitoring Project survey you took recently.

18. Think about how the MMP health department staff contacted you to tell you about MMP. What would have been the best way to contact you (e.g., phone, letter, email, in person)?

*Probe topics:*

- *Description of interaction*

- *What was said*
  - *Temperament assessment*
19. Did you have any concerns about participating in MMP?
  20. Why did you decide to participate in MMP?
  21. If the survey had been available online for you to complete on your own time, would you have done it online instead of doing it with an interviewer? Why or why not? Which way would you have preferred to do the survey?

### **Closing Question**

We're coming to the end of the interview. Just one more question...

22. The main goal of this project is to understand why some people living with HIV may not visit a healthcare provider for their HIV, is there anything else you would like to share about visiting a healthcare provider for your HIV?