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**MODERATOR INTERVIEW GUIDE**  
**In-Depth Interviews with Hispanic or Latina Women**  
**July 13, 2023 DRAFT**

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**Blue text:** priority question from Health Equity Office

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**I. Background and Privacy Policy** **5 minutes**

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- Thank you for speaking with me today.
- My name is **[INSERT]**. I'm an independent interviewer with KRC Research.
- I'll be leading our conversation today, which will last no more than 60 minutes.
- The sole sponsor of this interview is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—CDC. Our conversation today will focus on a health topic.
- I'm not a CDC employee and I'm not an expert on the topics we'll be discussing. I'm just here to learn from you!

There are no wrong answers, I am simply interested in your honest opinions. However, if you feel uncomfortable answering a particular question, you do not have to.

- Because privacy is important, I'm going to read our Privacy Policy to you. **READ:**
  - We will protect your privacy for today's discussion, and nothing you say will be reported in association with your name or other personally identifiable information.
  - Your name will not be included in any reports. We are talking to several different people. Things we hear from everyone will be compiled into a single report for the project sponsor and will be for the CDC's use only.
  - So that I don't have to take notes, I'll be audio and video recording our conversation, so I have an accurate record for reporting.
  - We ask that you not share any information from today's discussion with others.

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**II. Participant Introductions** **2 minutes**

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- Your first or preferred name.
- Where you live.
- What you're planning to do for fun this summer—or what you've already done!

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**III. Awareness & Information** **12 minutes**

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- What do you think of when I say the term, "infectious diseases?" What comes to mind?
  - **PROBE:** What examples? What images or scenes? What experiences? What symptoms? What concerns?

Public reporting burden of this collection of information is estimated to average **60** minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data 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 Reports Clearance Officer, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS H21-8, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; ATTN: PRA 0920-1154

- Can you think of any infectious diseases? Which ones can you name?

When I say, “infectious diseases,” I am thinking of diseases caused by germs like bacteria, viruses, and fungi that enter the body, spread, and cause an infection.

- With this meaning in mind, can you think of any other infectious diseases you haven’t named already?
- How about specific kinds of infectious diseases. Can you think of any diseases that are spread by...
  - o Mosquitos and ticks? **PROBE:** Lyme disease, Zika?
  - o Germs in water? **PROBE:** cholera, Giardia, Shigella?
  - o Germs from animals? **PROBE:** rabies, Salmonella?

#### **SHARE BRIEF LIST OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES: LYME DISEASE, WEST NILE VIRUS, ZIKA, RABIES, SALMONELLA, FLU**

- What do you know about any of the types of infectious diseases we mentioned?
  - o Do you feel like you know a lot, a little, or not much about infectious diseases? What makes you say so?
- Have you heard about any recent outbreaks of infectious diseases? What did you hear?  
**IF COVID; NOTE AND PIVOT TO PROBE FOR OTHERS**
- Have you had any experience—either personally or through someone you know—with infectious diseases before? What happened?
  - o How did your experience with an infectious disease affect you?
- What are some things you can do to help prevent the spread of these infectious diseases?
  - o **PROBE:** What can you do to protect yourself? **IF NEEDED, PROBE:** hand washing, insect repellent.
  - o **PROBE:** What can you avoid doing?
- How have you learned about infectious diseases in the past?
  - o Where did you get information from? **PROBE:** people, research you’ve done, news, etc.
  - o Have you looked things up intentionally before? If so, why?
  - o How has social media or online communities helped your understanding of infectious diseases?
- If you wanted to learn more about infectious diseases, where would you turn?
  - o Why do you say that?
- Who do you trust to give you information about infectious diseases? Why?

#### **IV. Concerns and Perceived Threats**

**15 minutes**

We talked about awareness, and we talked about information sources. Now I would like to change topics slightly.

- How worried are you about infectious diseases? Why?

- o How worried are you for yourself? Why?
  - o Are you worried for others? And for whom specifically? Why?
- Do infectious diseases seem...
  - o Scary?
  - o Confusing?
  - o Dangerous?
- Help me understand a little more about where your concern is coming from. It's a complicated topic! **PROBE ON EACH**
  - o Are you worried about being exposed to infectious diseases? By this I mean, the sense that you might be in more situations where you're at risk of infection.
  - o Are you worried about being particularly vulnerable to infection? By this I mean, the sense that you might be more likely to be infected if you came in contact with germs, or that an infection might be serious.
  - o Are you worried about being able to get care if you get infected?
- Who's at higher risk for infectious diseases? What kinds of people?
  - o Where do they live, and what do they do?
- Do you feel like you're at higher risk for infectious diseases than other people in the country? Or do you feel less at risk or the same?
  - o What about compared to other people in your own community?
- What factors do you think put you at [greater/less] risk compared to many others?
  - o **PROBE:** The work you do, the home you live in, access to things you can use to protect yourself, income, citizenship or immigration status, etc.
- Are there certain activities or times when you think you might be more likely to get an infectious disease? What can you think of?
- If you wanted to get information or care related to infectious diseases, do you feel like there is anything getting in the way of doing that effectively? What obstacles or challenges make it harder than it could be?
  - o **PROBE:** Is language ever a challenge? For you or your household?
  - o **PROBE:** Is cost?
- **IF BARRIERS:** How have these barriers affected your ability to prevent or treat infectious diseases?
- You might have already shared, but what would you need to feel like you are able to protect yourself from these diseases? **PROBE:** Information? Access to healthcare? Money?

## V. Behaviors

6 minutes

This is very helpful. We've talked about concerns, and we've talked about possible barriers. Now I'll switch topics slightly again.

- First: do you do anything in particular to protect yourself from infectious diseases?
  - o What do you do? When?

- Are there steps to protect yourself that you've considered, or that you're aware of, but haven't actually used yet?
- Are there any steps to protect yourself from infectious diseases that you find to be challenging to maintain or keep up with? What are they? Why are they difficult?
- Sometimes cultural or religious practices might affect people's behaviors related to infectious diseases. Do you think that this is true of you or your household? How so?

## VI. Climate Change and Pandemic Potential

15 minutes

Now a real change of pace! I want to quickly talk about **climate change** before I return to what we discussed before.

- How familiar are you with the topic of climate change?
  - o How often do you think about it?
  - o When does it come to mind, or when does it come up?
- Are you worried about climate change? Why or why not?
  - o What specifically is concerning?
  - o Are you worried about the impact of climate change on you or your community, or not really? What is that personal concern?

We've been talking about infectious diseases, and **climate change** is reason we are seeing more of these diseases. One of the ways this happens is rising temperatures mean germs and some animals or insects that spread diseases are coming in contact with people more often. Some of the diseases that may increase due to climate change are malaria, Lyme disease, West Nile Virus disease, Zika, Rabies, and Salmonella.

- Is the impact of climate change on infectious diseases something you've heard about before? Where?
  - o Do you feel like you understand how this relationship works, or not so much?
- Are you worried about the effects of climate change on infectious diseases? Why or why not?
  - o What about this worries you?
  - o Are you worried for yourself? Or for others—and if so, for whom? What's the balance?
- Does this feel like an urgent issue, an important but not quite urgent issue, or something less than that?
- Who do you feel is most at risk for infectious diseases that increase due to climate change? Why?
- What could people do to protect themselves from infectious diseases that are increasing due to climate change? Anything different from protections in general we discussed before?

In some cases, infectious diseases can spread rapidly across the country and even around the world. Examples include diseases like flu, COVID, and mpox.

- Does this possibility cause you to think differently about the level of concern you had for infectious diseases?
  - o How does this change your thinking? What feels different?
  - o What might this mean for the steps you take to protect yourself?
  - o What information or resources would you need to feel safer from this type of event?

## **VII. Wrap-Up**

**5 minutes**

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Thank you for being so willing to share your opinions and experiences with me. We will wrap up our conversation in a moment.

- Is there any other information or resources you would like to see developed to address some of the topics and concerns from this conversation?
- As we wrap up, is there anything else you would like to add about the topics we've discussed?

That is the end of my questions! Thank you again for your time.