

Interview guide for health care providers

HW ID code	(____ / ____) Facility HW code
Interviewer name	
Interview location	
Interview date	
Start time	
End time	

Interview guide for health care providers

Thank you for talking with me today. We are interested in learning more from the health care providers involved in ANC and counseling women on calcium and IFA supplementation. We will ask you questions about your experience and opinions providing ANC services and calcium and IFA counseling. I'm happy to be learning from you about your experiences. There are no right or wrong answers— you're the expert. Your answers will be the best way for us to understand the current situation.

Could you tell me about your position at this facility? How long have you worked here? How long have you been a _____(job title, nurse, etc)

Calcium and IFA

Giving pregnant women calcium along with IFA is new and we would like to hear how it has been going.

What do you think about giving women calcium and IFA during pregnancy?

What have you liked about providing women with calcium and IFA?

What haven't you liked?

What makes it easy to provide women with calcium and IFA?

What makes it difficult?

When you think back to the training you participated in on calcium or IFA supplementation in July, how satisfied are you with the quality of the training you received? Why?

Is there anything that you wish had been included? Anything else you would like to learn?

Have you started to use anything that you learned in this training in your work? What?

What situations did you encounter that the training did not prepare you for?

Can you tell me about your experience with calcium and IFA pill supplies? (Probe: Have there ever been shortages or stockouts? Do you have any suggestions for improvement?)

Can you tell me about your experience counseling women on calcium and IFA?

What has been going well?

What has been challenging?

Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

How do you feel about using the counseling cards? (Probe: Are they useful? How long does it take to use them? Do you use all of the cards, some of the cards) What do you like about the cards? What don't you like about the cards? How could these counseling cards be improved?

Should these counseling cards be made available to all ANC health care providers? Why?

Many healthcare providers talk about the challenges of not having enough time to counsel women during their ANC consultations. Is this something you experience for calcium and IFA? (Probe: In what ways?)

How do you address this challenge?

How has including calcium affected your consultations? (Probe) What makes it easy to counsel women on calcium and IFA? What makes it difficult?

What do you think about this calendar (show calendar) for women? (Probe: What do you like? What don't you like about it?)

How have women responded to it?

Should these calendars be made available to all pregnant women? (Probe: Why?)

Counseling on adherence partners

Do you use this counseling card with women (show adherence partner card)? Why?

How long does it take to counsel a woman using this card?

Should this card on asking to be encouraged and reminded continue to be included along with the other counseling cards?

What do you think about the idea of counseling a woman to ask someone to remind and encourage her to take her pills? (Probe: Is it useful/helpful?)

Do you suggest this to your clients? Why?

How do women respond to this suggestion?

If they have suggested women ask someone to remind and encourage: Have you followed up with women to see if they asked someone? How did it go for them?

Do you have these posters? (show poster) What is this poster for?

Have you been giving it to women?

What do you think of the posters?

Is there anything you like? Is there anything you do not like?

How do women respond to the poster?

Should we make these posters available for pregnant women at all health facilities? Why?

If you were a pregnant woman, would you want someone to remind and encourage you to take your calcium and IFA? Why/why not?

Based on your experience counseling women on calcium and IFA, do you think nurses at other health facilities should counsel pregnant women to ask someone they know to remind and encourage them to take their calcium and IFA supplements? Why?

Do you think it is possible for ANC providers given their other responsibilities?

What are the challenges for ANC providers to counsel women about asking someone to remind and encourage them?

How could these challenges be overcome?

Do you think this is an appropriate recommendation for pregnant women in this area?

Do women need to be encouraged or reminded? Why?

How would this help/not help them to take their pills?

Perception and use of IFA and calcium

Considering all of the work you do caring for pregnant women and all your responsibilities, how important do you think it is to provide women with calcium and IFA? Why?

How important is it to counsel women on calcium and IFA? Why?

How important is it to counsel women to ask someone to encourage and remind her to take these pills? Why?

How common is anemia among pregnant women in this area? (Probe: Is it an important health problem in this area?)

How common is preeclampsia/eclampsia among pregnant women in this area? (Probe: Is it an important health problem in this area?)

What advice would you give to policy makers in Nairobi who are making decisions about introducing calcium into ANC throughout the country? (Probe: Do you think the government should provide antenatal calcium and IFA for all health facilities?)

If you could change something about how calcium and IFA is provided to pregnant women, what would it be? Why?

Do you think it is possible for pregnant women to take calcium and IFA every day according to the regimen? Why? What challenges do they face? What makes it easier? (Probe: Is it difficult for them to remember to take them?)

Do you think calcium and IFA are helpful for pregnant women? Why?

What are your experiences with women taking these medicines? Do they like them? Use them? Why or why not?

Do you think the pregnant women you counsel take calcium and IFA every day as instructed? Why, why not?

Do you think these medicines are valued by women attending the clinic? Why?

Do they feel better or worse after taking these pills?

Do women experience side effects? (Probe: Which? Does this influence how they take their pills? Do they stop taking them?)

Is there anything you need to be able to better counsel and support pregnant women to take their calcium and IFA tablets?

Is there anything else you would like us to know about ANC or calcium and IFA?

Pregnant woman interview guide

Participant ID code	(____ / ____) Facility Client
Regimen	2 Calcium pills 3 calcium pills
Adherence partner	Yes No
Interviewer name	
Interview location	
Interview date	
Start time	
End time	

Pregnant woman interview guide

Thank you for talking with me today. We are interested in learning more from pregnant women about their experiences taking calcium and IFA pills during pregnancy. We will ask you various questions about your experience and opinions. I'm happy to be learning from you. There are no right or wrong answers, we just want to hear about your thoughts and experiences. Your answers will be the best way for us to understand how pregnant women feel about these pills.

IFA

We are interested in your experience with both IFA and calcium. Since these pills are different, I would like to start by asking you questions about your experience with IFA pills only and then I will ask you questions about your experience with the calcium pills.

Have you taken IFA pill during this pregnancy?

Are you still taking these pills?

If stopped: Why did you stop?

How do you feel when you take IFA pill? (Probe: Did the IFA pills make you feel differently?)

What do you like about the IFA pills? What don't you like about the IFA pills?

What helped you to take these IFA pills? (Probe: How did this help you?)

What helped you the most to take these pills?

Most people are not able to take their pills every day as instructed and I would be surprised if everybody was able to take their pills every time. Are you sometimes unable to take your IFA pills? (Probe: When? Why?)

What makes it difficult for you to take your pills?

Which of these made it most difficult to take your pills?

What helped you overcome this problem?

What could make it easier for you to take these pills?

If not mentioned before: Have you had any side effects from taking the pills? (Probe: what side effects, how long has she had them, does she still have them)

Did this side effect stop you from taking your pills? If yes, for how long?

Would you recommend other pregnant women take IFA pills? Why/why not?

Calcium

Now I would like to ask you similar questions about your experience with calcium pills.

Have you taken calcium pills during this pregnancy?

How often do you take calcium pills each day?

Are you still taking these pills?

If stopped: Why did you stop?

How do you feel when you take the calcium pills? (Probe: Did the calcium pills make you feel differently?)

What helped you to take these calcium pills? (Probe: How did this help you?)

What helped you the most?

Are you sometimes unable to take your calcium pills? (Probe: When? Why?)

What makes it difficult for you to take your pills?

What made it most difficult to take your pills? (Probe: Did this influence how you took your pills? How?)

What helped you overcome this problem?

Is there anything that could make it easier for you to take these pills?

If not mentioned before: Have you had any side effects from taking the pills? (Probe: what side effects, how long have you had them, do you still have them)

Did this side effect stop you from taking your pills? If yes, for how long?

Would you recommend other pregnant women take calcium pills? Why/why not?

Health services

Now I would like to ask you some questions about your experience at the health facility.

Thinking about these pills and how to take them, what did you like about the counseling you received at ANC?

What didn't you like?

How was the nurse's attitude?

How were you treated?

Did you ask questions? *If no*, Did you feel like you could ask questions?

How do you feel about the information you received about the calcium and IFA pills? Was it enough? Did you understand how and when to take the pills?

Are there any questions you still have about calcium or IFA pills?

Adherence partner

Did the nurse talk with you about asking someone to remind and encourage you to take your pills? (Probe: What did she say? What do you think about this suggestion?)

Did you receive a poster like this from the health facility? (show poster) (Probe: What did you think about this poster?)

Did you give this poster to anyone? Who? Why/why not? Where is the poster now?

***If she gave the poster to someone or if she didn't receive a poster but still was encouraged by a health worker to ask someone:*

Did you ask that person to remind and encourage you? Did they agree?

Why was he/she a good person to ask?

Did he/she do anything that helped you or made it easier for you to take your pills? (Probe: Did this influence how you took your pills? How? Was this helpful? Why?)

Did they remind or encourage you? (Probe: How? How often? Did this influence how you took your pills? How? Was this helpful? Why?)

Did they support you with other things in addition to taking your pills? Have you been satisfied with the support you receive from them? Is there anything else that you would like them to do to support you to take your pills? Has your relationship changed since you asked them to remind and encourage you?

How important was it for you to have someone who reminded and encourage you? Why? (Probe: What did you like about having someone remind and encourage you? Was there anything you did not like?)

Do you want them to continue doing this? Why?

Do you think this would be helpful for other pregnant women?

Should this poster be given to all pregnant women who receive calcium and IFA pills? (Probe: How is it helpful? Do women already ask people to remind and encourage them? Can you tell me more about this?)

You mentioned that XXX was a big barrier did (adherence partner name) help you overcome this in anyway?

Is there a word you would use to describe someone who provides this kind of help?
(in either Swahili or Luyha) *you used the word x earlier what does that mean to you?*

***Even though you didn't ask someone:* Did anyone remind or encourage you to take your pills?
(Probe: Who? How? How did this influence your pill taking? Did you like being reminded and encouraged?)

*** (If no one reminded or encouraged her)* Would you want someone to remind and encourage you? Why/why not?

Who would you want to help you? (Probe: someone within her family, outside her family) How would you want them to help you?

***For women who did not ask anyone and do not think it would be helpful probe on why they feel this way.*

Why don't you need to be reminded or encouraged? Is there any help or support from others that you need to be able to take pills? For other things in pregnancy?

At the health facilities in Kakamega North, nurses have been trained to advise pregnant women to ask someone they know to remind and encourage them to take their calcium and IFA pills. We have heard some women say they like this idea and other women say they do not want this kind of help. Based on your own experience with these pills, what do you think about this idea of having someone help/remind/encourage? (Do you need this kind of help? Why? How would this help/not help you to take your pills? Would it help you take your pills better? What do you like/not like about it?)

Social support

Did anyone else that we haven't talked about remind, encourage or help you in any way to take these pills? Who? What did they do? How often? How did this influence how you took your pills?

Do you feel like the people who are important to you (husband, family, neighbors) support you and help you during pregnancy? How?

Do you feel like the people who are important to you (husband, family, neighbors) support you and help you to take your pills? How?

What support or help do you need during pregnancy that you do not get?

What support or help do you need to take your pills that you do not get?

(If not already mentioned) What kind of help is most important for you to be able to take all of your calcium and IFA pills as instructed throughout pregnancy?

Did anyone or anything discourage you from taking your pills? Who/what? What did they do? What did they say? How did this influence how you took your pills?

Did a community health worker ever talk with you about calcium and IFA? About health in pregnancy in general? Can you tell me about your interactions with the CHW? (Probe: How often, was it helpful? How would she like it to be?)

Would you want a CHW to talk with you about calcium and IFA and pregnancy?

Adherence partner interview guide

Pregnant woman's participant ID code	(_____/_____) Facility Client
Interviewee's relationship to study participant	
Interviewer name	
Interview location	
Interview date	
Start time	
End time	
Consent form administered	

Adherence partner interview guide

Thank you for talking with me today. We are interested in learning more from pregnant women's family and friends to understand what you think about being healthy in pregnancy and how you can help, as well as your opinions about tablets women are being given from the health facility. We will ask you several questions about your experience and opinions. I'm happy to be learning from you about your experiences. There are no right or wrong answers, we just want to hear what you are thinking. Your answers will be the best way for us to understand how we can help women be healthy in pregnancy.

General pregnancy

What can women do to be healthy during pregnancy?

What can women do to have a healthy baby?

Do women need to do anything differently when they are pregnant compared to when they are not? What? Why?

How is this different at different times in pregnancy? (Probe: early, middle, late?)

As a _____(husband, mother-in-law, family member, etc) of a pregnant woman, what is your role?

When women are pregnant they might need help and support for different things? Do you provide any help and support to _____(name) now that she is pregnant? What kind? Why? (PROBE: How has it been for you to help or support her during pregnancy? How does it make you feel?)

How has your relationship with _____(name) changed since she became pregnant?

Calcium and IFA

Health facilities in this area are now giving women calcium and iron and folic acid, called IFA tablets to take during pregnancy. Have you heard about this? If yes, what have you heard?

What do you think about pregnant women taking IFA tablets? Why?

What do you think about pregnant women taking calcium tablets? Why?

Do you know if _____(name) was given calcium and IFA tablets? What do you think about her being given these tablets? What are these tablets for?

Do you have any questions about these tablets? Do you have any concerns about these tablets?

What can make it easy for pregnant women to take these tablets? (Probe which of these is the most important)

What can make it difficult for pregnant women to take these tablets? (Probe which of these is the most important)

Adherence partner

Have you seen this poster before? (show adherence partner poster) If yes, do you have it? Can you tell me about it? (PROBE: How did you get it, where is it, what is it asking you to do)

Did _____(name) ask you to help, encourage or remind her to take her tablets? Can you tell me more about this?

Have you done anything to help or support her take her tablets? What? How often?

How has it been for you to help or support her with her tablets? How does it make you feel?

Why do you provide this help and support?

How do you like providing this help and support for her to take these tablets?

Is there anything that is easy about providing this kind of help and support?

Is there anything that is difficult about providing this kind of support?

Are there other kinds of help or support that you could provide (name) when she is pregnant?

Is there anyone who discourages (NAME) from taking her calcium and IFA tablets? (PROBE: Who? What do they do? What do you think about this? How does it influence her pill taking?)

Would you suggest other (husbands, mother-in-laws, etc) help their (wives, daughter-in-laws, etc) take their tablets in a way similar to what you are doing? Why?

Should all health facilities give pregnant women these posters? Why? (Probe: What did you like about the poster? What don't you like about the poster?)

How else can pregnant women be helped to take all of their calcium and IFA tablets as instructed?

Suggesting pregnant women ask someone they know to remind and encourage them to take their calcium and IFA supplements is something we have been trying in Kakamega North because some pregnant women tell us that it helps them take their pills every day as instructed. Based on your own experience helping someone with her calcium and IFA pills, what do you think about this idea? (Probe: Do you think it should happen in all health facilities?)

Pregnancy information and care seeking

Where do you get information about how women can be healthy during pregnancy? (Probe: family, radio, newspaper, church, neighbors, clinic, etc)

Do you think women need to go to the health facility during pregnancy for ANC? Why? What for? How often?

Do you think pregnant women need to seek care from TBAs? Why or why not? Where should women give birth? Why? Is this always the case?