

Focus Group 1 Discussion Guide

Questions about health in Somalia and refugee camps:

1. Q: What was your opinion of healthcare in Somalia?
2. Q: Did you receive health education (in Somalia)? What kind?
3. Q: If you spent time in a refugee camp, were you provided health services there?
4. Q: What kind of health services did you receive in Somalia (e.g. preventative, emergency, obstetric, etc.)?

Questions about resettlement process

1. Q: Were you provided with health services and/or screening as part of the resettlement process?
2. Q: Were you provided with health education as part of the resettlement process? What kind?
3. Q: If you have children, were you offered healthcare services for your children? What kind?

Questions about healthcare in the US

1. Q: What kinds of healthcare services have you received in the US (e.g. preventative, emergency, obstetric, etc.)?
2. Q: For what health conditions are you most likely to seek medical care?
3. Q: Where do you go for healthcare services?
4. Q: If you have children, what kind of healthcare services have they received?
5. Q: Have you received health education or information (in the US)? (From whom, about what?)
6. Q: What are some of your community's biggest health concerns in the US? Mental (or Autism)? Physical? Chronic Conditions?
7. Q: Who is the decision-maker in your household for health care?
8. Q: What sources of information do you use to make healthcare-related decisions? (e.g. family, friends, religious leaders, doctors, healthcare workers)
9. Q: Do you trust your healthcare provider and his/her guidance/recommendations?

10. Q: Is there any part/aspect of the healthcare system in the US that you do not find completely trustworthy?
11. Q: Who does your community (not just you) go to for healthcare? (who is trusted?) Are there specific hospitals people go to?

Focus Group 2 Discussion Guide

Introductory Questions

1. Do you have children (under 18 years old)? How many? What are their ages?

Prenatal Health Questions

1. If you've had children, did you experience your pregnancies here in the United States?
2. What is prenatal care? What do you know about prenatal care?
3. How do you feel about c-sections? (I ask because women seem to bring this up a lot and it is mentioned often in literature around Somali women's birth experiences in Western countries)
4. What did you learn through prenatal care that was valuable to your child rearing?
5. Where did you give birth? Where do mothers in your family or friends give birth?

Pediatric Health Questions

1. What do you know about pediatric (infant and childhood) health? Where do you get information about pediatric health (friends, family, internet, social media, doctors, etc.)?
2. How do you make decision about your child's healthcare?
3. Do What does the phrase "stages of development" mean to you? (If they're not sure we could explain and then ask the next part) What do you think the "stages of development" for children are? When do they happen?
4. Where do people learn about stages of development?
5. Who (or where) do your children go to see for healthcare?
6. When do you take your children to their doctor? How old are they typically? Yearly visits? How often? (routine preventive care, health and developmental guidance, screening for health conditions, treatment of acute and chronic conditions, and injury care)
7. What is a healthy child?

8. What type of problems or challenges have you experienced with your own children when it comes to their health? What about in your community?
 9. What barriers might prevent you from seeking or accessing healthcare for your children?
 10. Do you have any advice or tips for young mothers and their young children when it comes to their healthcare?
 11. If you were to watch educational video about pediatric health, how would you prefer to access or watch that?
 12. How would you like to receive information about infant and child health in the future? (maybe give some options like using technology, watching videos, attending health fairs, attending workshops, formal classes, advice from doctors, etc.)
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Focus Group 3 Discussion Guide

Questions about Vaccine Knowledge and Attitudes:

1. From your understanding, what are vaccinations for? What are their benefits? How do they work?
2. Do you understand how the vaccination works in your body?
3. Are vaccines effective against diseases/illnesses?
4. What information have you received about vaccinations and where?
5. Do you feel that the information you received was enough to make a good decision?
6. What information is missing that you would like to know about vaccination?
7. Do you feel like you get better information about vaccinations when you have a translator or someone like this present?
8. When did you first get vaccinated?
9. When did your children first get vaccinated? Why did you vaccinate them (i.e. school requirement)?
10. Why did you vaccinate (did school, doctors tell you?)
9. Why did you vaccinate in the US?
10. Where did you get vaccinated?

11. If you were not told by a doctor or school to get vaccinated (prompted by someone else), would you still vaccinate your children and why?
12. As you might know, vaccines are conducted based on a schedule (based on age of child) – what are your thoughts about the schedule? Frequency of the shots children are getting?
13. What do you think about frequency, amount, timing of shots?
14. Have you heard of parents delaying vaccinations for their children?

Questions about Anti-Vaccination:

15. Have you heard the recent news about disease outbreaks in the US caused by unvaccinated children?
16. If so, where did you hear that information? What are your thoughts about that?
17. What are reasons people decline vaccinations?
18. Are vaccines related to or a cause of any illness (besides autism)?
19. Do you know others in the community who are hesitant about vaccinations?

Questions about Technology:

20. If we were to create something educational for you and your community, what would be the best way to teach?
21. If you were to design the VR program what would you do or show?
22. What kinds of experiences would you like to see? How vaccines work? Simulated interaction with healthcare provider?

Script Review Focus Group Discussion Guide

- 1) What were your overall impressions of the script?
 - 2) Does the script have the potential to impact your community's beliefs about autism and vaccination?
 - 3) What did you like about the script?
 - 4) What would you change about the script?
 - 5) Is there anyone or anything that you think is missing from the script?
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Parent Interview Guide

Introductory Questions:

1. How old are you?
2. Do you have children? How many children do you have?
3. Are you married?
4. How long have you been in the US?

Interview Questions:

1. Where or who do you generally get your medical information from? Why?
2. What is autism?
3. From your understanding, what causes autism?
4. Do you know anyone in your community who has autism?

If their child:

1. Were you familiar with autism prior to your child's diagnosis?
2. What signs or behaviors have caused you to seek medical help for your child?
3. Can you explain the process of receiving an autism diagnosis for your child?
4. What challenges have you faced as a parent of an autistic child?
5. What challenges has your child faced as a child with autism?
6. What treatments have you used to manage your child's autism?
5. How do people in your community view or understand autism?
6. Is there anything you would like to know or understand about autism?
7. How do you feel about vaccinations?
8. Would you, or have you, vaccinated your children? Why did you make that choice?
 - Have you been made aware that vaccination and immunization records are now required for children to attend school in San Diego? How do you feel about that?
9. How do you think other members of your community feel about vaccination?
 - What concerns or fears do other members of your community may have about vaccination?

10. Do you know anyone in the Somali community in San Diego who has chosen not to vaccinate? Why? Do you think they would be willing to speak with us?
11. Do you feel like you've been provided enough information about vaccinations to make an informed decision?
 - Do you feel like members of your community are provided with enough information about vaccination to make an informed decision?
12. If you've changed your mind about vaccinations at any point, do you recall what that deciding factor was? If you haven't changed your mind (or if you are still anti-vaccination or hesitant), what may change your mind?
13. What would you like to know or understand about vaccinations?
 - What do you think members of your community would like to know or understand about vaccinations?
14. What do you know about Virtual Reality? Have you ever used it?
 - Would you feel comfortable using VR for an education program? Do you think members of your community would be comfortable using VR?
 - Do you have any questions about Virtual Reality?
15. What other formats would be best for developing a health education program for your community? (video, game, lecture, workshop, discussion)?
16. Is there anything else you think we should know or consider?
0. Any questions for me?