

Title: *Interview Guide for the Study: Healthcare Collapse and Disease Spread – A Qualitative Study of Challenges in Gaza Strip*

Introduction:

Interviewer's Script:

"Hello, and thank you for taking the time to participate in this interview. My name is [Interviewer's Name], and I am conducting this interview as part of a research study exploring the challenges faced by healthcare providers and communities in Gaza amidst the healthcare system collapse and disease spread.

Before we begin, I'd like to remind you that this interview is entirely voluntary, and you may decline to answer any question or stop the interview at any time. Your responses will be confidential, and your identity will not be revealed in any reports or publications.

The interview will take about 30–45 minutes. With your permission, I would like to audio-record our conversation to ensure I capture your responses accurately. Do you consent to proceed and to the recording?"

(Wait for verbal consent before proceeding.)

Section 1: Background Information

1.1. Role and Experience

- Can you please tell me about your current role and responsibilities within the healthcare system (or your community)?
- How long have you been working in this role (or living in this community)?

1.2. Contextual Understanding

- How would you describe the current state of healthcare in Gaza?

- What are the most pressing challenges you've encountered related to healthcare service delivery?
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Section 2: Healthcare System Collapse

2.1. Systemic Issues

- From your perspective, what are the main reasons for the collapse of healthcare services in Gaza?
- How has the healthcare system's collapse impacted your work (or your community)?

2.2. Resource Availability

- Can you share your experiences with access to medical supplies, equipment, and medications?
- Have you observed any specific shortages that significantly impact patient care?

2.3. Infrastructure Challenges

- What challenges have you noticed related to healthcare infrastructure, such as hospitals, clinics, or emergency services?
 - How have these challenges affected the delivery of essential healthcare services?
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Section 3: Disease Spread and Public Health

3.1. Disease Patterns

- Have you noticed any changes in the types of illnesses or diseases spreading in your area recently? If so, what are they?
- What factors do you believe contribute to the spread of these diseases?

3.2. Preventive Measures

- Are there any public health measures currently being implemented to address disease spread?
 - What challenges do you face in implementing or adhering to these measures?
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Section 4: Impact on Vulnerable Groups

4.1. Community Challenges

- How has the healthcare crisis impacted vulnerable groups, such as children, pregnant women, or the elderly?
- Are there any specific groups in your community that you feel are being neglected?

4.2. Mental Health and Well-being

- What impact has the healthcare crisis had on mental health among healthcare providers and community members?
 - Are there any mental health support services available? If not, what gaps exist?
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Section 5: Coping Strategies and Recommendations

5.1. Coping Mechanisms

- How are healthcare providers and communities coping with the current challenges?
- Are there any innovative or community-led solutions that you've observed?

5.2. Recommendations

- What changes would you recommend to address the challenges faced by the healthcare system in Gaza?
- Are there specific areas where international support or interventions could be most effective?

Closing

Interviewer's Script:

"Thank you so much for sharing your valuable insights and experiences. Is there anything else you would like to add that we haven't covered?"

If you have any questions or concerns about this study, please feel free to contact me at [contact information]. Thank you again for your time and contributions."

(Stop recording if applicable and express gratitude to the participant.)

Notes for Use:

- Adapt questions based on the participant's role (e.g., healthcare worker, community member, public health official).
- Ensure sensitivity and empathy, particularly when discussing personal or emotional topics.
- Use follow-up questions to probe for more details where necessary.