

In-depth Interview Guide – Enrolment interview (to be done around month 1 visit)

Qualitative component: Exploring HIV self-testing experiences among HIV-1 uninfected men and women.

Target group: HIV uninfected partners enrolled in the Partners HIV Self-testing Project in Thika

Objectives:

- 1. Learn opinions of HIV uninfected partners on HIV self-testing.**
- 2. Gain an understanding of how participants performed the HIV self-test including any challenges experienced.**

INTRODUCTION

Ice breaker

What kinds of HIV tests are you aware of?

Probe:

- Clinic based HIV testing and HIV self-testing
- What would motivate you to take a HIV test

Topic 1: Acceptability

What do you think about HIV Self-testing? What are the advantages? What are the disadvantages?

Possible probes:

- What would be the advantages or benefits? What would motivate you to take / do a HIV self-test?
- What would be the challenges or disadvantages?
- Are there any reasons that would make you not perform a HIV self-test?
- Possible concerns with HIV self-testing?
- How do you feel when you think about HIV self-testing?
- How would your partner feel about you HIV self-testing??

Topic 2: Usability

How was your experience in using the HIV self-test in the clinic?

Possible probes:

- How (easy/difficult) was it to perform a HIV self-test?
- How (easy/difficult) to interpret HIV self-test results?
- What challenges did you experience in performing the HIV self-test?
- How was the training on HIV self-testing provided at the clinic? What would you like changed?
- Would you share your results with others? If so, who?
- Would you share your HIV self-test kits with others? If so, who would it be?
- Would you test others with your HIV self-test kits? If so, who would it be?

Topic 3: HIV testing preferences

What would you prefer HIV self-testing at home or clinic based HIV testing?

Possible probes:

- What would you prefer, oral HIV self-testing at home or clinic based testing? What are your reasons?
- What are the things that would make you prefer self-testing?
- What are the things that would make you prefer clinic based testing?
- How do you find the six monthly clinic based HIV testing schedule while on PrEP?

Topic 4: HIV self-testing preferences

What would you prefer blood-based HIV self-testing or oral HIV self-testing?

Possible probes:

- What would you prefer, blood-based HIV self-testing or oral HIV self-testing?
- What are the reasons that would make you prefer blood HIV self-testing?
- What are the reasons that would make you prefer oral HIV self-testing?

Topic 5: Sexual Behavior

Possible probes:

How might HIV self-testing affect sexual behaviors (if at all)? Condom use? The number of partners?

Topic 6: Closing discussion

Possible probes:

- When people self-test and get a positive result, what are some ways to help them?
 - Probe about helping via the phone calls, packaging inserts that could provide helpful messages, what kind of preparation should people have before they self-test to prepare for the results, etc.
- What would make it easier for you or others to perform HIV self-testing? Probe on the use of the videos and package insert.
- Any other thoughts or suggestions or questions on HIV self-testing that you would like to share?