**Interview details**

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| Participant ID | PWKAP04F |
| Municipality | Mayadevi |
| Occupation | Housewife |
| Education (grade) | 9 |
| Type of household | Joint |
| Ethnicity | Tharu |
| Nb of pregnancies before this one | 11 |
| Gestation age in months | 2 |
| Start time | 12:00 |
| End time | 12:46 |
| Interviewer | Sujata Chhetri |
| Date | 13/02/2023 |
| Name of transcriber | Nirmala |
| Name of translator | Nirmala |

**Interview**

# INTERVIEWER:

What is your job?

# PARTICIPANT:

I do household work like cooking and working in the field.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did you study?

# PARTICIPANT:

I studied up to grade 10 but I did not pass it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Who else lives with you in your house?

# PARTICIPANT:

Mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, husband and me. My daughter does not live here. She lives in my parent's home. When school is over, they come here.

# INTERVIEWER:

Nobody leaves abroad?

# PARTICIPANT:

No.

# INTERVIEWER:

How many months are you pregnant?

# PARTICIPANT:

It has been 1 and a half months.

# INTERVIEWER:

Is it your first child?

# PARTICIPANT:

Second.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you have any miscarriages?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I had it many times. I think about 8 or 10 times.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did it happen after your daughter’s birth?

# PARTICIPANT:

It happened before and after her birth. After my daughter was born, I had one miscarriage.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know what were the reasons?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know why. I don't understand why it happened every time. It may be that someone has put an evil eye in my belly.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did you go anywhere for it?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I went to a *mataji* [female spiritual healer].

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you believe in all this stuff?

# PARTICIPANT:

What can I do? After visiting her, I had a child so I have to believe her, right?

# INTERVIEWER:

So you don’t have problems anymore, right?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, but I have abdominal pain sometimes. There has not been any other problem.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did you go for pregnancy check-ups?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes. I just went to Pachehra health post for a check-up. I went there once. I did not go after that.

# INTERVIEWER:

You went there and what did you check there?

# PARTICIPANT:

They checked my abdomen. I had dizziness and felt like I was about to faint. They did not check me properly. After that, I did not go to the health post again.

# INTERVIEWER:

You went once. What did they check? Blood, urine, anything else?

# PARTICIPANT:

They did not check anything.

# INTERVIEWER:

What did they say then?

# PARTICIPANT:

They did not say anything. I did not know and they did not tell me anything.

# INTERVIEWER:

Didn't they give you any suggestions? About what tests need to be done at what time?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, they didn't say anything. They just told me to visit again but I did not.

# INTERVIEWER:

During your previous pregnancy, did you check your blood and urine?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I did it during the fourth month.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did you do blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes. They did blood and urine tests. My sister and mother-in-law went with me.

# INTERVIEWER:

When you became pregnant for the first time, you had blood tests. Did they tell you to do it?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

What do you think about blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

I feel like doing it is good so I would know if any disease is present. What else can I say? If I know, then I won't have problems or be sick. The child will be healthy.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know what diseases are tested through blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know about all this.

# INTERVIEWER:

What did the doctor say before taking your blood?

# PARTICIPANT:

I gave my blood and he says that my child was all right, nothing else.

# INTERVIEWER:

Didn't you ask anything?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I did not ask anything.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard of sexually transmitted diseases?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know anything about it?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know anything [laughs].

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard of STDs such as HIV AIDS?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, AIDS. Is this an STD?

# INTERVIEWER:

Yes. It is a disease which can be transmitted through sexual intercourse.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard of any other disease like it?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I have not.

# INTERVIEWER:

When they do blood tests during pregnancy, they do it to detect whether STDs are present. Do you know anything about it?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know.

# INTERVIEWER:

It is okay. Now I will tell you a story. Imagine that you have someone very close to you in your village. She comes to your house for tea. She is also pregnant and she is the same age as you. She tells you that she heard about pregnancy check-ups on the radio such as pregnant women going to health posts. She comes to you to get your suggestions. If she asks whether she should go for check-ups, what would you answer?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to go for the check-up as it will be good for her. The doctor will do check-ups properly. That's it. When we go there, we will know what is happening a proper check-up will be done.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she asks you whether she needs to pay for the check-up, what would you say?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think if we do a check-up, we need to pay for it. In government hospitals, we don't need money but in other places, money is required. If she goes to a good place for check-ups, she will need more money.

# INTERVIEWER:

"'Good place" means private?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, it means private. If we go to private health facilities, then we will have to pay money. In government hospitals, we won't have to pay.

# INTERVIEWER:

Where is it better to go?

# PARTICIPANT:

Everyone tells us to go to government hospitals. There will be good check-ups and good doctors. Suppose that they do proper check-ups there. If anything happens, they send us to private hospitals for check-ups.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she does not want to go to public hospitals, she can go to private ones, right?

# PARTICIPANT:

In private, they take a lot of money.

# INTERVIEWER:

More money is required, right?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, much more so it is better to go to health posts or government hospitals.

# INTERVIEWER:

What do doctors do during the check-up?

# PARTICIPANT:

They check the abdomen and do urine tests.

# INTERVIEWER:

How long does it take in the hospital?

# PARTICIPANT:

It can take about 1 or 2 hours. If it is very crowded, it may take up to 3 or 4 hours.

# INTERVIEWER:

Will you recommend your friends to go to check-ups alone or with someone?

# PARTICIPANT:

If someone goes along with her, it is very good. It won’t be good to go alone.

# INTERVIEWER:

With whom should she go?

# PARTICIPANT:

The husband and wife should go together. If a friend is available then she can also go with her. It is not good to go alone.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did someone recommend you do blood tests during this pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, not this time. They told me during my first pregnancy.

# INTERVIEWER:

What did they tell you to do blood tests for?

# PARTICIPANT:

We need to do blood tests to have a good and healthy child. We can know what is our condition after doing the blood test. If we do blood and urine tests, we can know the condition of the child.

# INTERVIEWER:

What did the doctor say when seeing the report?

# PARTICIPANT:

The doctor checked and said that everything was good.

# INTERVIEWER:

You had a long conversation about blood tests with your friends. However, she does not want to go for check-ups. What might be the reasons?

# PARTICIPANT:

One reason may be that she had never done it. She might have other reasons too. If she is in good condition, she might not agree to go for check-ups. Also, there could be some major problems. She may have many problems so she does not want to go. She might feel ashamed.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard that there can be blood deficiency during pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't heard such a thing.

# INTERVIEWER:

Does the doctor tell you about it when you went for check-ups?

# PARTICIPANT:

No. They didn't say anything.

# INTERVIEWER:

If your friend Sarita knows that she has blood deficiency, do you think she will go for a blood test?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

What might be the reasons for not going?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes. She might be scared. Even if she is not afraid, she may not want to go because she does not want to go alone.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard about HIV/AIDS?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know about hepatitis B and syphilis?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard anywhere about these diseases?

# PARTICIPANT:

I haven't heard. Where can I hear about this? Yesterday or the day before, I heard about diseases that can be transmitted on mobile.

# INTERVIEWER:

Which disease did you hear about?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think it was HIV, but I am not sure. My husband was listening to it. I heard a little bit as I was next to him.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did your husband tell you anything about it?

# PARTICIPANT:

He told me about the problems that can occur such as tingling of hands and feet, and pain in the hands and feet.

# INTERVIEWER:

Suppose that your friend tells you that she feels shy to go because she has rashes in such areas that she feels embarrassed to show. That's why she does not want to go. How would you counsel her?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to not feel shy. If she feels shy, the problems will get worse. She should tell the doctors what problems she has.

# INTERVIEWER:

Will it be ok to ask about STDs in the health post?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, why not? I will tell her to come with me. We know, so we talk, right?

# INTERVIEWER:

What behaviour do you expect during check-ups from health workers?

# PARTICIPANT:

They should behave nicely and tell about things properly. When we go for check-ups, the doctor should ask us properly about what happened and what problem brought us here… When they ask us, then only it becomes easy for us to tell them about our problem.

# INTERVIEWER:

Suppose Sarita has an STD. Should she tell her husband?

# PARTICIPANT:

She should tell him.

# INTERVIEWER:

Why do you think so?

# PARTICIPANT:

What can we know if we don't have conversations and advice from our husbands? He will know only when she tells him and he can take her to the hospital and give advice.

# INTERVIEWER:

Sarita has not told anyone until now, neither her husband nor any other members of her family. Why she did not tell anyone?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think she felt embarrassed so she did not tell anyone. When we get shy, we can't tell anyone.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you think she should inform her relatives?

# PARTICIPANT:

The family members should know about it. When the family members know about such problems, they can take us to the hospital or tell us to go to the hospital.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you think they will help her?

# PARTICIPANT:

Why won't they help? They will surely help. If they have money, then they even take her to the hospital.

# INTERVIEWER:

You did not go for blood tests so far. Do you plan to go?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, maybe I will go for a check-up once. Let's see. I don't have money right now.

# INTERVIEWER:

You will go only if you have money?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes. If I don't have money, then I won't go.

# INTERVIEWER:

Now I will end this discussion here.