**Interview details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Participant ID | PWKAP06H |
| Municipality | Suddhodhan |
| Occupation | Housewife |
| Education (grade) | 0 |
| Type of household | Nuclear |
| Ethnicity | Dafaali, Muslim |
| Nb of pregnancies before this one | 1 |
| Gestation age in months | 9 |
| Start time | 11:23 |
| End time | 12:12 |
| Interviewer | Nilam Yadav |
| Date | 28/02/2023 |
| Name of transcriber | Nirmala Nepali |
| Name of translator | Nirmala Nepali |

**Background**

The data collector has been introduced to the pregnant woman by an FCHV from the same village. The interview was conducted in the *pidhi* [area of the house].

**Interview**

# INTERVIEWER:

What is your job?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't work.

# INTERVIEWER:

You don't do anything?

# PARTICIPANT:

No. I just do housework like cooking and serving at the house.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you studied?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't.

# INTERVIEWER:

What caste do you belong to?

# PARTICIPANT:

*Dafaali.*

# INTERVIEWER:

Which community does Dafaali belong to?

# PARTICIPANT:

We belong to the Muslim community.

# INTERVIEWER:

Who do you live within your house?

# PARTICIPANT:

I just live with my husband and my daughter.

# INTERVIEWER:

How many months have you been pregnant?

# PARTICIPANT:

9 months.

# INTERVIEWER:

Is this your first child or do you have other children?

# PARTICIPANT:

It is the second child.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you done antenatal check-ups during your pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I have done check-ups.

# INTERVIEWER:

How many times have you done it?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think it's been 6 to 7 times.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did you do blood tests during pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't done blood tests.

# INTERVIEWER:

Why haven't you had blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

I did not have money. So I did not do blood tests due to money problems.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know anything about STDs?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard anything about sexual diseases?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't.

# INTERVIEWER:

The diseases which can be transmitted by sleeping with the husband are called STDs. Have you done any tests for this?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't done any tests until now.

# INTERVIEWER:

I will tell you a story and you will tell me what you think about it. Suppose you have a close friend. Her name is Sarita and she is of your age. You are really close friends. You eat together, sit together, sleep together and share all your secrets. She comes to your house for tea and some conversations. And there is no one in your house. You are alone. Your in-laws are busy with their own work. So they are not with you at the time. She is four months pregnant, just like you. She heard on the radio that it is necessary to have pregnancy check-ups but she could not hear more.

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, they don't tell everything.

# INTERVIEWER:

She heard that check-ups should be done during pregnancy. She comes to you to get advice. What would you tell her when she comes to you and ask you about antenatal checkups?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her that she needs to do the check-up. That's it.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she asks you whether it is required to have check-ups during pregnancy and what would happen if she does the check-up, what would you say?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would say that it is important to do pregnancy check-ups. I would say that she should do check-ups, blood and urine tests and have medicines, iron and calcium tablets regularly.

# INTERVIEWER:

If Sarita asks you where she should go for the check-up, what advice would give her?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to go to a government hospital for check-ups.

# INTERVIEWER:

Which government hospital?

# PARTICIPANT:

Lawani health post.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she asks you if she requires paying for check-ups and how much money is needed, what answer would you give?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her that in government hospitals, it is done free of cost so she does not need to pay.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she asks you what she needs to do during her hospital visit from reaching the hospital to returning home, what would you say?

# PARTICIPANT:

First, when she arrives, she needs to take the ticket. They ask you about which month of pregnancy you are running in and when the last period was. When you tell them, they write these on the paper and make a card and give it to you.

# INTERVIEWER:

If Sarita asks you whether she should go alone or not and whom she should go with, what would you tell her?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to take anyone from her family. She should go with her husband and if she is alone and does not have anyone with her, then she can go alone.

# INTERVIEWER:

She asks you how much time she has to wait there.

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her that if there are more people, then she might have to wait for some time due to the crowd. If there is no crowd, then it can take less time. I would say that there would be good check-ups.

# INTERVIEWER:

What type of tests may be there in the check-up?

# PARTICIPANT:

They do the abdominal check-ups with a machine and take the weight measurement. That's it.

# INTERVIEWER:

They check by touching your abdomen. What else do they do?

# PARTICIPANT:

They take the weight measurement.

# INTERVIEWER:

Others?

# PARTICIPANT:

They don't do anything else.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do they listen to the heartbeat?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, they listen to the heartbeat.

# INTERVIEWER:

What about iron tablets?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, they give iron tablets too. They write and give the prescription for calcium. They also write all the required medicines on the prescription including the medicines for energy.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do they give advice on how to take the iron tablets?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, they do. They tell us how to take the tablets. Iron tablets should be taken once before bedtime.

# INTERVIEWER:

But also, if any problem occurs during pregnancy, then where should she go?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to visit the same hospital where she went for check-ups and all other tests. Where can she go other than that?

# INTERVIEWER:

You said you have never done blood tests but Sarita wanted to ask and know about the check-ups. If she asks you whether she should do blood tests and wants your advice on what she needs to do for it, what advice would you give her?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her not to worry. She should solve the money problem and asks for money from someone. I would ask her how many problems she has and if she is not having many symptoms, she does not have to do it. I would tell her not to worry. We can't just force someone, right?

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know why they do the blood test?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know why they do the blood test.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know anything about what happens after the blood test or what is it done for?

# PARTICIPANT:

I haven't done the blood test myself. So what can I say to her?

# INTERVIEWER:

Though you haven't done the blood test, she asks you about where she needs to go for the blood test and how she will get informed about the reports.

# PARTICIPANT:

I would suggest she visits the government hospital and meet the female health worker. She should follow the advice she gives you. She will tell you when to get the reports. It is better to ask her than me as I don't know about this.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she does not agree to go for the check-up, what could be the reasons behind this?

# PARTICIPANT:

As she is pregnant herself and she does not want to go for the check-up, I would tell her to go for the check-up. But it's up to her. She can decide whether she goes for the check-up or not.

# INTERVIEWER:

So you explain it to her and try to make her understand.

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

But also she does not want to go for it, what would be the reason behind it?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know why she won't agree to it. Maybe she is scared about what the doctor might say.

# INTERVIEWER:

What about her family?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, it might also be due to fear of the family.

# INTERVIEWER:

After you told Sarita about blood tests and gave her advice, do you think she wants to go for the blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

If she has money and she feels that she should do the blood tests, then she might do it. But if she does not have money and is helpless, then she might not do it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Let's suppose she has money and you gave good suggestions to her, but she does not want to do the blood test. What could be the reasons?

# PARTICIPANT:

We can't know that. Maybe her family does not give her permission to do the blood test.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard about the deficiency of blood (anaemia)? How does the deficiency of blood occur in the body?

# PARTICIPANT:

I have heard of it.

# INTERVIEWER:

So you have heard? Suppose Sarita does the blood test and there is blood deficiency in her body, then would she agree to do the test again?

# PARTICIPANT:

If all her family members including her husband come to know about it, then I think they would agree to it. If they agree, then they should go and do the test. If they don't allow her, then she just can't go on with her wish.

# INTERVIEWER:

If you tell Sarita that all these STDs like HIV AIDS, hepatitis B and syphilis can be tested through blood tests, then would she agree to do the blood test?

# PARTICIPANT:

She has to tell her problems to her family members and make them understand well. They should also agree with her that it is right. Then she would do the test. If they don't agree with her, then she would not do it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Is it important to do blood tests for the testing of STDs?

# PARTICIPANT:

If she explains it well to her husband and he agrees to it, then she might do it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Suppose she asks you about the blood tests and then again told you that she would not go for the blood test, what would you say?

# PARTICIPANT:

It could be due to the denial of the family members. Maybe her family members and her husband have told her not to go, so she might not have gone to the hospital. There might not be the support of family members.

# INTERVIEWER:

Due to a fear of blood tests, Sarita does not want to do pregnancy check-ups. Now how would you counsel her to make her agree to do the test?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to go for the pregnancy check-up. The doctor will take good care of her. They will perform blood tests, through which we can know if there is any blood deficiency or any kind of disease. I would tell her these things.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she tells you that she is very scared to go, how would you convince her?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her not to be scared. There will be nothing wrong. Everyone goes to do the test so she should go once and take advice from the doctor.

# INTERVIEWER:

Where do you get information about health services and pregnancy check-ups?

# PARTICIPANT:

The FCHV told me. She gives me all information regarding health services whether it is related to vaccines or medicines. She tells me about everything.

# INTERVIEWER:

Whom do you tell about your health? Family members or husband? If you have any health problems, is there consultation with the family members?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, we discuss it among ourselves. If my husband is with me, then I tell him. Otherwise, I can also tell my other family members. During my first pregnancy, my mother-in-law and father-in-law were with me so I used to tell them about my problems.

# INTERVIEWER:

When you tell your health problems to your family members, what suggestions do they give you?

# PARTICIPANT:

They suggest going to the hospital for check-ups and treatment.

# INTERVIEWER:

Suppose you have some problem and your family members are not with you. Would you go alone to the hospital?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I won't. I would go with someone, either my mother-in-law or my husband, if he is at home.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know what types of diseases are tested through blood tests? Please say whatever you feel. Don't worry about being right or wrong. Just give your opinion, thoughts and suggestions, ok?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know about it.

# INTERVIEWER:

What other diseases can be diagnosed through blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know much about it but blood tests should be done. If there is any disease, then it can be detected and known through the reports.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know what are the reasons for blood deficiency?

# PARTICIPANT:

It can occur due to a lack of a proper diet. If we eat properly, then there won't be blood deficiency.

# INTERVIEWER:

What type of diet do you mean?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think if we eat rice, pulses, beetroot, milk, apple, and pomegranate, then there won't be blood deficiency.

# INTERVIEWER:

If there is blood deficiency in the body, how can we know about it?

# PARTICIPANT:

When there is a deficiency of blood in our body, then problems can occur such as tingling sensations in our hands and legs, weakness, dizziness, etc. If these problems are seen, a check-up should be done in the hospital and we can know if there is any deficiency in the blood.

# INTERVIEWER:

What about diet?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, they write about diet that we should eat green leafy vegetables, rice, pulses, milk and fruits like apple, pomegranate and beetroot.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do they tell you to eat other foods too?

# PARTICIPANT:

They tell us to have medicines for energy such as iron tablets and calcium tablets.

# INTERVIEWER:

What are the consequences of blood deficiency in pregnant women? Do you know anything?

# PARTICIPANT:

No. When I became pregnant, I had dizziness and vomiting. I did not have any problems other than that. When the child is born, then I don't have such a problem.

# INTERVIEWER:

What are the risks for the pregnant mother and the child?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know that.

# INTERVIEWER:

What kind of effects can be there? What do you think?

# PARTICIPANT:

What effects could be there? If the mother is weak, then obviously the child will also be weak. The child can't develop well due to weakness. The mother needs to be healthy for the child to be strong.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard about a disease called HIV AIDS?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I have heard of AIDS.

# INTERVIEWER:

What have you heard about it?

# PARTICIPANT:

I have heard that when there is a marriage between two families and the husband or the wife has relation with someone else and then again with their wife or husband, it can get transmitted. It can transmit by sleeping together.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know anyone who has this disease HIV AIDS?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know. I have not known. I don't go anywhere. How would I know?

# INTERVIEWER:

What else do you know about HIV AIDS, sister?

# PARTICIPANT:

I know that it is a transmittable disease. I don't know anything else.

# INTERVIEWER:

What symptoms do you think are seen after you get HIV?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know anything. I have not seen or experienced anything like this.

# INTERVIEWER:

HIV AIDS is a disease which can be transmitted by a virus. The virus can affect the immunity of our body. And after the HIV virus enters our body, there can be symptoms like fever, and weakness for up to 2 to 6 weeks, which may disappear later. The person may seem to be healthy from the outside but there can be various effects internally. And there can be fever and other problems, which can last up to many days. It makes you very weak and if it is not diagnosed early, then it can even lead to death. As you said, HIV can be transmitted between husband and wife when they sleep together through semen. It can also be transmitted through blood.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know if there is medicine for HIV AIDS?

# PARTICIPANT:

I have heard that there is no medicine for this disease.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know anything about hepatitis B?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't heard.

# INTERVIEWER:

Hepatitis B is a disease which infects the liver. Hepatitis B can also transmit through semen and blood. The symptoms of hepatitis B include high fever, extreme weakness and pain in the upper abdomen. And there is a feeling of pain. Also, there can be spots on our skin and extreme itching. There can also be the yellowing of the white part of the eyes.

# PARTICIPANT:

I have never heard of it. How would I know?

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard about anyone infected with hepatitis B?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't heard about it.

# INTERVIEWER:

What are the effects of hepatitis B on the pregnant woman and her child?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think if the pregnant woman has an infection, then it can be transmitted to the child too because the child is inside her womb and after birth, the child is breastfed. If the mother herself is weak, then the child can also be weak.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard about syphilis?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't heard.

# INTERVIEWER:

Syphilis is also an STD. It can be transmitted sexually. In this disease, sores can appear around our private parts, mouth, lips, and hands. Also, spots can be seen on other parts of the body such as hands and feet. And sometimes, if there is a delay in treatment or medication, then it can spread to the whole body. All these sores and spots can spread. In this disease only, high fever, fatigue, headache, throat pain, and swelling of the neck can occur. Have you heard about syphilis in your village or neighbourhood?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't heard.

# INTERVIEWER:

What can we do for the prevention of STDs?

# PARTICIPANT:

First, we should not try to prevent the infection. If we find out that there is an infection, then treatment should be done immediately to cure it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Why should we do blood tests during pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think that diseases can be diagnosed by blood tests. It also detects whether it has been transmitted from mother to child. And they tell you what problem there is and give you medicines.

# INTERVIEWER:

Now suppose that Sarita has rashes around her private organs and her body. She is stressed about what disease it is and whether it can be an STD. If she comes to you and asks you for advice, what would you answer?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would suggest going for a check-up and treatment. If it spreads all over the body later, then it can be very serious and won't be easy to cure. You may have to go somewhere far for treatment then. So I would tell her to go for the treatment as soon as possible.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she does not agree to do the blood tests, what could be the reason behind it?

# PARTICIPANT:

Maybe she has not taken advice from her husband and family members. They may not have told her to go for the check-up. Even though she wants to go, she might have not gone due for some reason. She might feel ashamed. I would tell her to go as they will do proper check-ups without any kind of pressure and will give good suggestions. If she feels shy, then how can she be treated? No, she should not feel ashamed. She should go for a check-up and take medicines. As she has a suspicion, I would tell her that it can be transmitted to other people. The health workers will tell her where to go and what to do.

# INTERVIEWER:

If Sarita asks you whether she should show her rashes in the private parts to the health worker or doctor, what would you say?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to go and meet a female doctor, not a male doctor. I would tell her to show it to a female doctor and do the check-up.

# INTERVIEWER:

What behaviour should the doctor have towards this?

# PARTICIPANT:

They should everyone nicely. There should not be any discrimination.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do her relatives also need to do the blood test?

# PARTICIPANT:

Why not? They should all do the blood test. All should do it whether there are symptoms or not. If there is any other problem or disease, then it can be detected.

Pregnant women usually don't do it because they don't have money. Those who have the money go to private facilities for check-ups. In government hospitals, the doctors tell them to go here and there. Those who have money immediately go for check-ups. At last, money is what we need. Our husbands are farmers and they do not go abroad to work. That’s why we have money problems.

# INTERVIEWER:

If you have money, would you do blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I have not done blood tests because I don't have money. If I have money, then I would surely do the test. I didn't have money, so I didn't do it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you have something to add?

# PARTICIPANT:

I want to say that I will give birth to this child and then I won't have any children. I will have 2 children. That's it. The husband should agree to it. If he does not agree, then what can we do? The husband may say he wants 2 children after 1 child, 3 children after 2 children and 4 children after 3 children, what can we do?

# INTERVIEWER:

You and your husband should have a conversation about that. You should talk to him and make him understand.

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I have to talk to him. Now we have to look after ourselves, our daughter and this child. I have not done blood tests until now. I have not been able to do an ultrasound either. I tell him that we should not have more children. There can be many problems while looking after them. If the husband is an understanding one, then he would agree. Otherwise, he won't.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you talked to your husband about it?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I have.

# INTERVIEWER:

What did he say?

# PARTICIPANT:

He says that we should have 3 children, not more than that.

# INTERVIEWER:

Does he want 3 children?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, he wants a daughter, a son and one more child.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you want to have 2 children?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I want 2 children. He wants 3 children.

# INTERVIEWER:

You should have a proper conversation with your husband and explain it to him, ok? I think he will understand. Why won't he?

# PARTICIPANT:

Now, I will give birth to the one I am carrying right now. Then I will do as he says.