**Interview details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Participant ID | PWKAT03D |
| Municipality | Suddhodhan |
| Occupation | Housewife |
| Education (grade) | 12 |
| Type of household | Joint |
| Ethnicity | Terai Dalit |
| Nb of pregnancies before this one | 1 |
| Gestation age in months | 2 and half |
| Start time | 11:00 |
| End time | 12:41 |
| Interviewer | Nilam Yadav |
| Date | 02/02/2023 |
| Name of transcriber | Nirmala Nepali |

**Background**

The data collector went to the house of the pregnant woman with the FCHV who introduced her. The pregnant woman was sitting with her father-in-law, mother-in-law, sister-in-law and two neighbours. The interview took place in the cooking area behind the house for intimacy.

**Interview**

# INTERVIEWER:

What is your occupation?

# PARTICIPANT:

I do household work: cooking, washing clothes and cleaning the house.

# INTERVIEWER:

What level have you studied up to?

# PARTICIPANT:

I have studied up to grade 12 but could not pass two subjects.

# INTERVIEWER:

That means you have passed grade 11. Don't worry, you will pass grade 12 too. To which ethnic group do you belong?

# PARTICIPANT:

I belong to the Dalit*.*

# INTERVIEWER:

Who is living with you?

# PARTICIPANT:

There are my mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, sister-in-law and her sons.

# INTERVIEWER:

How many weeks are you pregnant?

# PARTICIPANT:

It's been about two months and a half.

# INTERVIEWER:

Is it your first pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

I had a miscarriage at 3 months.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you done any check-ups related to pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't.

# INTERVIEWER:

How did you know that you were pregnant?

# PARTICIPANT:

I had headaches and body tremors.

# INTERVIEWER:

You had tremors, and then what did you do?

# PARTICIPANT:

I had a pregnancy test.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did you do the test at home?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

Don't be shy. I am also a girl. It does not matter. When you found out that you were pregnant, whom did you tell first?

# PARTICIPANT:

I told my husband and he told my family members.

# INTERVIEWER:

And you did not go for further check-ups yet?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I have not gone for a check-up.

# INTERVIEWER:

And did you do any blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

Since the pregnancy test, I have not done any tests.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard about sexually transmitted diseases?

# PARTICIPANT:

About sexually transmitted diseases? No, I have not heard.

# INTERVIEWER:

These are diseases transmitted through sexual intercourse. Do you understand what sexual intercourse means?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I do [laughs].

# INTERVIEWER:

The diseases which can be transmitted through sexual intercourse are called sexually transmitted diseases. Do you know about the diseases which get transmitted through sexual intercourse?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know.

# INTERVIEWER:

Now 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. She comes to you to get advice. What would you tell her in such a situation?

# PARTICIPANT:

I will tell her that it is necessary to do check-ups during pregnancy.

# INTERVIEWER:

Suppose she asks you whom she should go with.

# PARTICIPANT:

I will tell her to go with her mother-in-law or friends.

# INTERVIEWER:

And if she asks where should she go, what will you suggest to her?

# PARTICIPANT:

A place with good services and facilities. If there is such a place at a nearby distance, then she should go there.

# INTERVIEWER:

Oh, do you mean the health post of Labani?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she asks you how much she will have to pay, what would you answer?

# PARTICIPANT:

Right now, I do not have knowledge about it. We need to visit there to know about the fees. I will tell her that if she has money, then she should take it with her. She should take whatever she has, I will give her too if I have some money.

# INTERVIEWER:

Should she visit alone or with family members?

# PARTICIPANT:

It is better to go with someone rather than alone. If anything happens when you are alone, then you will wish you would have gone with someone.

# INTERVIEWER:

And how long will she have to wait?

# PARTICIPANT:

You should go there to know how long you will have to wait to meet the doctor. If there is no doctor, then...

# INTERVIEWER:

We need to sit for some time.

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, you should. And there you will know how much time you need to wait.

# INTERVIEWER:

If I go there for a check-up, what will they tell me?

# PARTICIPANT:

They will ask you to do blood tests and other tests for some diseases.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard about pregnancy check-ups from anyone?

# PARTICIPANT:

I have heard.

# INTERVIEWER:

What do they do during pregnancy check-ups?

# PARTICIPANT:

I do not have that knowledge.

# INTERVIEWER:

It is ok. You can tell whatever you know. Do not think you do not know or do not get scared of being wrong.

# PARTICIPANT:

I do not have knowledge of what to do and what not to do during pregnancy.

# INTERVIEWER:

Even if you have not visited, you can give advice as per whatever knowledge you have. It does not matter if you are right or wrong. Suppose Sarita asks you what are the tests for, what would you say?

# PARTICIPANT:

I will tell her that blood tests should be done during pregnancy to check if there is any disease...

# INTERVIEWER:

If you give your blood for testing, how will you get information about it? Do the health workers tell you if there is any problem in the blood?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, they will tell.

# INTERVIEWER:

What do they tell?

# PARTICIPANT:

They tell about any disease present. They tell about positive or negative results. They will tell us otherwise how will we know?

# INTERVIEWER:

How long do you think we need to wait for the results?

# PARTICIPANT:

It may take 1 or 2 days. Some reports may come in 2 or 4 hours.

# INTERVIEWER:

If it takes 1 or 2 hours for the reports to come and Sarita asks you what to do in that time, what would you answer?

# PARTICIPANT:

If 1 or 2 hours are needed, she can either go home and come back later or sit there and have conversations to pass the time.

# INTERVIEWER:

If Sarita does not want to have pregnancy check-ups, what do you think can be the reasons?

# PARTICIPANT:

Maybe she thinks it takes a long time or there may be other reasons too.

# INTERVIEWER:

What could be the other reasons?

# PARTICIPANT:

Maybe there are some problems at home like no support from the family.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you think she would agree to have a blood test if she knows about them?

# PARTICIPANT:

I do not know [laughs].

# INTERVIEWER:

If you do not understand Nepali, I will speak in Awadhi. It’s okay. Do you think it is good to have blood tests during pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

Why would it not be right? I will make her understand that it is good to have these tests during pregnancy.

# INTERVIEWER:

You advise her but she does not agree to it, what do you think could be the reasons?

# PARTICIPANT:

I will counsel her properly and tell her that it is good to do this test.

# INTERVIEWER:

If she still does not want to have tests after counselling her with all those things, what could be the reasons?

# PARTICIPANT:

She might not have money, or she might have no support from the family. They might not have given her permission or the family members may also have not taken her. Also, maybe she is afraid about what to do or to not do. These can be the major reasons.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know about blood deficiency in the body?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't know. But I have heard of weakness.

# INTERVIEWER:

What can be the causes of weakness? Do you know anything about it?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I don't [laughs].

# INTERVIEWER:

If we counsel her about this or any disease present in the blood, would she go for blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think she will go. If she gets to know about her weakness, then she must go to know why she has a weakness.

# INTERVIEWER:

If the doctor says that they need to take your blood for STD tests, what will you do?

# PARTICIPANT:

I will say that I will decide after consulting with my family. I will ask my family members if they want it or not. I will do as per their wish. I can't just do whatever I want.

# INTERVIEWER:

Does it mean that you need authorization from your family?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, I need authorization from my family.

# INTERVIEWER:

What will your family say in this situation? Will they tell you to do the test?

# PARTICIPANT:

If it is a good thing, then they might tell me to do it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Although you said that you do not know anything, you have your mother-in-law to guide you. How does she help you?

# PARTICIPANT:

She advises me to go for a checkup once I am three months pregnant.

# INTERVIEWER:

Your family and even your mother-in-law advise you to go for a checkup regularly. In the case of Sarita, she was advised the same, but still, she doesn't want to go for a checkup. What would you tell her to convince her to go for a checkup?

# PARTICIPANT:

Family members and mother-in-law will advise. An antenatal checkup is essential because it is beneficial during this time. I would counsel her by saying this.

# INTERVIEWER:

Now Sarita is scared of taking a blood test. She is frightened of the whole procedure. What would you tell her to convince her to take a blood test?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her that a blood test will help us know what has happened. I would tell her that blood tests will let us figure out whether we have a particular disease or not. Everything will be diagnosed through blood. I would advise her to visit the doctor, and they would tell her what else to do. If there are other conditions such as lack of blood then they will help in managing the situation.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you share your pregnancy problems with your family or your husband?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, of course. I will share it with my family if I have a loss of appetite, a headache, or don't feel like doing anything.

# INTERVIEWER:

When you have all these problems, whom do you tell first?

# PARTICIPANT:

First of all, I would tell my husband if I have experienced any issues such as headaches, discomfort, or weakness.

# INTERVIEWER:

When you share your issues with your husband, does he suggest you go for a consultation or does he provide you with any support?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, he suggests I visit the doctor. He even says that during pregnancy it is normal to not feel like eating, experiencing headaches and all. He consoles me and tells me that it is a normal thing to experience during pregnancy, and not to worry much.

# INTERVIEWER:

How did you know that you should visit the hospital if you fall sick when you are pregnant?

# PARTICIPANT:

I was informed by my family that you should visit the hospital when you are three months pregnant. And is not necessary to go for a checkup before you are three months pregnant and you do not need to take any medicine either.

# INTERVIEWER:

Who gave you all this information?

# PARTICIPANT:

My mother-in-law.

# INTERVIEWER:

Does she advise you about other information except for going for a checkup after you are three months pregnant?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, she does tell me that throwing up, weakness and body aches are symptoms of pregnancy.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do they take you to the hospital if your issues are escalated?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, of course, they do.

# INTERVIEWER:

Who does all the household chores when you fall sick?

# PARTICIPANT:

My sister-in-law and niece help with the chores.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know what are routine checks during pregnancy?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know what diseases may get diagnosed through blood tests?

# PARTICIPANT:

Through blood and urine tests, we can identify diseases such as thyroid, diabetes, etc.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard anything about a lack of blood?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I have never heard of it before. I did hear that it makes your body so weak that you shiver. But I have no idea exactly how it happens.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know someone who might have anaemia?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, no one that I know.

# INTERVIEWER:

In your opinion, how can we prevent a lack of blood?

# PARTICIPANT:

Eating green leafy vegetables, meat and milk products and drinking milk will help in increasing the blood in our body.

# INTERVIEWER:

Did you eat this food as you are pregnant?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

Who brings this food to you?

# PARTICIPANT:

Mother-in-law and my husband.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you have any problems while eating food or not?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, not that I am aware of.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you eat meat and meat products?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, not to date.

# INTERVIEWER:

Why not?

# PARTICIPANT:

I never felt like eating.

# INTERVIEWER:

Does the smell of meat and fish bother you?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, it does.

# INTERVIEWER:

What do you prefer to eat as a substitute for meat?

# PARTICIPANT:

I prefer to eat milk and milk products.

# INTERVIEWER:

What can happen if a pregnant woman doesn't eat nutritious food?

# PARTICIPANT:

The body becomes weak and shivers. Also, weakness and watery discharge. It may affect the baby and the baby's health.

# INTERVIEWER:

You said that it might affect the baby's health. How can it affect the baby's health?

# PARTICIPANT:

Due to weakness, the baby may be handicapped. I don't know anything else [laughs].

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you heard of HIV?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes.

# INTERVIEWER:

What have you heard about HIV?

# PARTICIPANT:

Nothing else. I have heard of the name HIV and nothing else.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you ever seen anyone who might have HIV?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know any symptoms of HIV?

# PARTICIPANT:

No.

# INTERVIEWER:

Okay. So do you have any idea whether this disease is curable or not?

# PARTICIPANT:

I think it will not, but we should continue taking medicine.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you know where we can take the medicines?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know much, but I have heard that it gets cured after eating medicine.

# INTERVIEWER:

Where did you hear that HIV gets cured after eating medicine?

# PARTICIPANT:

My husband told me. He has a bit of knowledge about medicine. I think minor diseases are cured through medicine.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you have any idea where we can get medicine for HIV?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't asked my husband about this.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you have any idea how will HIV affect the other part of the body?

# PARTICIPANT:

I have no idea about that.

# INTERVIEWER:

Why don't you try to remember? You were talking about it a few minutes ago.

# PARTICIPANT:

[Laughs]

# INTERVIEWER:

If the symptoms are severe, what sort of consequences may arise?

# PARTICIPANT:

If the person keeps on neglecting his health and the fever is recurrent even after taking medicine then it can transfer to other people.

# INTERVIEWER:

If a person has sexual intercourse with an HIV-infected person, then will it get transmitted?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, it will.

# INTERVIEWER:

If a pregnant woman has HIV, how will it affect her as well as her child's health?

# PARTICIPANT:

It can be transmitted from mother to child.

# INTERVIEWER:

Yes, you are right. Have you heard of hepatitis B?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven't.

# INTERVIEWER:

Hepatitis B is a sexually transmitted disease that affects the liver. It gets transmitted through sperm. Do you understand what sperm is?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don't know. What does sperm mean?

# INTERVIEWER:

It's like a seed that is released from a male during sexual intercourse. It gets transmitted from a husband to his wife or vice versa through sexual intercourse.

# INTERVIEWER:

Just like HIV which may get transmitted through sexual contact. This disease too gets transmitted from one person to another through unprotected sexual contact. If a husband or a wife is infected with hepatitis B then without the use of protective measures it gets transmitted from one to another.

# PARTICIPANT:

Really?

# INTERVIEWER:

Yes! Do you know, where should a person go for treatment?

# PARTICIPANT:

I don’t have much idea about it, but I would suggest she visit a government hospital for further treatment.

# INTERVIEWER:

What would you say if they ask you whether it is okay to not treat the disease and visit the hospital?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to opt for medical treatment. I would also inform them that the disease gets transmitted through blood and sexual contact. Using protective measures while keeping physical contact is important.

# INTERVIEWER:

What do protective measures mean? Can you explain?

# PARTICIPANT:

[laughs]... condom. It is a better option to use a condom.

# INTERVIEWER:

Let’s suppose a pregnant woman who has hepatitis B is scared that it might get transmitted to her child. What suggestions would you give her?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would tell her to meet the doctor at a government hospital. They will give you proper information about everything.

# INTERVIEWER:

So, you will advise her to go to the near health institution?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes. I would tell her to meet the doctor, and they will give her proper pieces of advice about everything.

# INTERVIEWER:

Have you ever heard of syphilis?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven’t heard of it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Syphilis is transmitted through sexual intercourse and blood. There are small wounds or spots around sexual organs. Have you ever seen someone who has these symptoms?

# PARTICIPANT:

No, I haven’t.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you think syphilis is cured through medical interventions?

# PARTICIPANT:

I will ask if there’s a medicine available for curing the disease or not.

# INTERVIEWER:

Whom will you ask?

# PARTICIPANT:

I would ask my family first. If they do not have any idea regarding the disease too then I would go to the doctor at the hospital for information.

# INTERVIEWER:

In your view, what might be the reasons behind pregnant women’s hesitation to go for treatment?

# PARTICIPANT:

Maybe because of money issues, family issues, and lack of transportation.

# INTERVIEWER:

What kind of family issues?

# PARTICIPANT:

Maybe they aren’t willing to take her for a checkup, or the family might not have money to go for a checkup.

# INTERVIEWER:

Do you think husbands should take blood tests too?

# PARTICIPANT:

Yes, it is important and necessary that the husband take a blood test too. It will help to identify who is infected and how can we prevent it.

# INTERVIEWER:

Ok, that is interesting. Thank you so much for your time and your participation.