

TOPIC GUIDE FOR INTERVIEWS

Process

Interviews will use the following format:

1. **Information Sheet and Consent Form:** Confirm that the participant has read and understood the Participant Information Sheet. Provide the opportunity for the participant to ask any further questions about the interview. Participant completes two copies of the consent form.
2. **Interview:** Ask questions below.
3. **Debrief, Participant Background Information Sheet, Gift Voucher and Contact Details form:** Debrief Participant. Complete *Participant Background Information Sheet*. Provide gift voucher. Participant signs *receipt for gift voucher*. Participant completes *Contact Details form* (if have consented).

Interview

1. Introductions and Attitudes to Vaccination in general

Name of researcher, name of participant(s) – if a group interview then researcher to state who is sitting where (to aid transcription)

First I would like to ask you your views about vaccinations/immunisation for children

What do you think in general about vaccinations for children?

Prompt

- Good/bad thing – why?
- Are there any vaccines in particular about which you have different views?

What do you think about the schedule for childhood vaccines? So this is the timings of doses and of the number of vaccines given

Prompt

- OK/busy – why?

Are you aware that the schedule changes from time to time, a new vaccine may be added, the number of doses increased or even doses removed?

Why do you think the schedule changes?

Prompt

- New vaccines / Vaccines removed / Different timings / More or fewer doses

What do you think about these changes?

Prompt

- Good/bad thing – why?

2. Meningococcal B Disease and Vaccine

Have you heard of meningococcal disease? What do you know about it?

Prompt

- How is it spread?
- What types of infection does it cause? (meningitis, septicaemia)
- What do you know about meningitis/septicaemia?
- Are there any vaccines in the schedule that protect against meningococcal disease? Which ones?

Have you heard about meningococcal B disease? (MenB)

Prompt

- How common is it? / Who is most likely to get it?
- What are the symptoms? (how would you recognise meningitis/septicaemia?)
- What are the risks to young children?
- How does it differ from Men C disease?

Have you heard about the MenB vaccine? What do you know?

Prompt

- Immunise at 2, 4 and booster at 12 months (catch up 3, 4 months – only 2 doses if 4 months)
- How does it differ (or not) to Men C vaccine?
- Safety

MenB vaccine has been developed and licensed and at the moment the Dept of Health are deciding whether to introduce it for all children. If the vaccine was introduced:

- What information would you want to be included about *MenB disease* in a leaflet for parents?
- What information would you want to be included about the *MenB vaccine* in a leaflet for parents?

If MenB is given with other vaccines there is an increased risk of fever. How do you feel about fever in your young child - How confident are you in managing fever?

Prompt

- Do you worry about it?
- When and why?
- Is it the level (i.e. 39 degrees) / Length of time it lasts? / Discomfort / Worry about fits / brain damage / Masking another illness

How do you manage it?

- When would you seek professional advice – when/from where?

The advice is that you give your child paracetamol (sachet) after the first 2 doses (2 and 4 months). You would be advised to administer this at home (3 times), 1. as soon as possible after the jab, 2. 6-8 hours later 3. and again 6-8 hours later. This reduces the likelihood of fever without affecting how well the vaccine works.

What do you think about the need to give your child paracetamol after the MenB vaccination?

Prompt

- Is it a concern to you – why/why not?
- Would you do it? (what if no sign of fever?)

The GP practice will provide 1 paracetamol dose in a sachet. You need to provide the other 2 doses yourself.

Prompt

- What do you think about that?
- Do you have paracetamol for children at home?
- Is it a concern to you – why/why not?

What information would you want to be included about *fever after MenB vaccine and paracetamol* in a leaflet for parents?

Would you have the MenB vaccine if it was offered?

Prompt

- Would you consider not having the other vaccines at that time point so that your child can have MenB without the increased risk of fever? Why / why not?

3. Delivery of MenB vaccine

When the MenB vaccine is introduced, this will mean that children will have more injections in one visit (3 instead of 2 at both 2 months and 4 months – N.B. until recently they had 3 injections at 4-month visit but that dose of Men C is removed from schedule now). What do you think about that?

- Is it a concern to you – why/why not?

Given that the risk of fever is increased when MenB is given with other vaccines, how would you prefer to have it? Why? (i.e. about ¼ get fever with MenB alone, about ¼ with other vaccines alone, but ½ get fever with MenB AND other vaccines) – the level of fever is no higher than with other vaccines, just more likely to get it.

- At the same time (when fever is likely)
- At a separate visit?

At the 12 month visit, it will mean 4 vaccines are given – what would you prefer? Why?

- 2 visits with 2 injections at each visit / 3 and 1 / all 4 in one visit

What information would you want to be included about the *number of injections per visit* in a leaflet?

4. Drafts of Materials

Finally, thinking about what we have discussed so far about MenB, I would like you to now look at the 3 leaflets and let me know what you think.

Go through leaflets in turn, page by page (vary order look at them)

- 2 minutes guide to MenB
- MenB full leaflet
- Paracetamol

- What is the most important thing for you to know from this leaflet? (what is next most important etc.?)
- What is less important?
- Should information for the MenB and C vaccines be combined – why/why not?
- How do you like the information to be presented – bullet points/pictures/how much detail
- Precise wording
- Q&A format

5. Off label vaccines

What do you think about 'off label' vaccines (it is licenced for different patients/conditions?)

Prompt

- Would you let your child have an 'off label' vaccine? Why/why not?
- Any particular circumstances?

6. Final Comments

Is there anything else about MenB or childhood vaccines more generally that you want to tell me before we finish?