

Supplementary material 3: DrOTS Acceptability and Perceptions Study

Focus Group Discussion Guides

FGD For DrOTS enrolled villagers

Part 1: General context for The TB Project perceptions and experiences

- 1.1 What are the most common sicknesses here in the village?
- 1.2 What do you think are the main causes of sickness here in the village?
- 1.3 What do people in your household do usually when they get sick?
- 1.4 Do some people still like to visit traditional healers?
- 1.5 In what situations would you go to the healthcare center?
- 1.6 What if somebody is too sick to get to the healthcare center? What then?
- 1.7 Is there a village health coordinator or a community health worker for this village? What is their role in the community?

1.8 Have other foreigners ever come to this village before this The TB Project program?

1.9 Have any medical teams ever come to the village before this TB project?

Probes: (If answer yes):

When? What services did those other teams offer?

Did someone in your community invite them so that they come or they just arrive?

Is the TB project team doing something pretty similar to what those earlier teams did, in your view then?

Do the projects seem organized and run in a similar way? Are you involved in a similar way with these visiting teams? Do you find interactions between the medical teams and the villagers similar to those you have observed in the past between villagers and visiting medical teams? Is it unusual to have the same group of people coming back?

PART II: PERCEPTIONS AND ENGAGEMENT WITH DROTS

2: Understanding of and first contact with The TB Project/TB Project

2.1 Have you told anyone outside the village about the TB project? What did you tell them?

Rephrase: How would you explain what the TB team is doing here to a friend or cousin in another village?

2.2 What is the TB Project team trying to do, in your understanding? Who, in your understanding, is organizing this Project?

2.3 How did you first find out about (or hear or learn: whichever most contextually appropriate) The TB Project?

Probes: Was that the first time you learnt about TB?

2.4 Did you attend an information meeting? Why/why not?

2.5 When you first found out/heard/learnt about The TB Project, what went through your mind?

Rephrase/Probes: What did you think? Were you excited? Did you have any concerns? Did you ask any questions?

2.6 Are there some in the village who have different ideas or feelings about the TB Project?

3: Perceptions and experiences of TB testing by The TB Project team

3.1 The TB Project medical team does tests to see who might have TB. How did you feel about getting tested by the team?

Probes: Did you want to get tested? Did you feel obligated in any way? Had you been tested before?

3.2 Was anything about the testing process difficult for you?

Probes: Did anything surprise you about the testing? Please explain.

3.3 Did you discuss with anyone in your house, or with neighbors, before getting tested by the team?

Probe: (If yes) : What did you discuss with them? What did they think about this testing?

(If did not discuss with anyone) Why did you not discuss the testing with anyone before deciding to do it?

3.4 Did the healthcare team use a tablet? If yes: what did they use it for? Did you see a video on it? Was it helpful?

3.5 Is there anything about the testing process you wished had been done differently?

Probe: Please explain why that is important to you.

3.6 If you have to get a TB test: Do you prefer getting a TB test in a healthcare centre outside the village, or being tested by a team that comes to your village? Why?

4: Perceptions and experiences of the drones

4.1 What did you think when you first saw the drones?

4.2 Do you like this idea of using drones/this flying bus to transport medications and test results in and out of the community? Why/why not?

4.3 Does anything about these flying in and out of your community bother you?

Probes: Have you had any unpleasant experiences with the drones? Have the drones scared any one here in the village?

4.4 If you had TB, how would you feel about receiving your medications through a drone?

Probe: Do you think medications for TB coming in on a drone will make it easier to know who has TB in the village? Is that a concern for you?

4.5 Do you think you would feel the same way about receiving medications for another disease?

4.6 You spoke of a number of health problems at the beginning: do you imagine these drones could help with other problems in the village, health-related or others?

Rephrase: What other uses might drones have in villages such as yours in the future?

5: Perceptions and experiences of the tablets and Evrimeds

5.1 Who here had a chance to watch any videos about TB? Which one(s)?

Probes (For each): What did you think of it How many times did you watch it? Who showed it to you?

5.2 What was the message of this video, as you remember it?

Probe: Do you think that what it talks about is important? Did you feel differently about TB after watching the video?

5.3 Do you think sharing information about health and treatments for sicknesses through tablets is a good strategy for getting people in the village to learn about these things? Why or why not?

6: Closing reflections on The TB Project and technologies for health

6.1 Has anything surprised you in your experience with the The TB Project team so far?

6.2 What do you think could be improved in the The TB Project program?

Rephrase: Has anything about this program been a little difficult for some in the village?

6.3 Do you think The TB Project will change how people think about TB or healthcare in the village?

6.4 Is the TB Project visiting the village something you want to see continued in the future? Why or why not?

Conclusion

Thank you. We have learnt so much. Is there anything you would like to add? Is there anything we missed?

FGD guide for Mobile Health Unit Focus Group Discussion Guide

Thank you agreeing to take part in this interview. In our discussion today, I am going to ask you some questions about your experience with The TB Project. You are one of the first people in Madagascar and the world to participate in such a program. It is very important we learn from you what it has been like to introduce this program here at the village-level in Madagascar.

Introduction

Could you please share with me what your roles are within The TB Project?

Part 1: Understanding and experiences of DrOTS/The TB Project

1.1 How did you first find out about The TB Project?

1.2 Had you heard about TB before this?

1.3 When you first found out/heard/learnt about DrOTS/ The TB Project, what went through your mind?

Probes: What did you think? Were you excited? Did you have any concerns? Did you ask any questions?

1.4 Tell me what it is like to work in the villages with this project.

1.5 Have you encountered a village or a group of individuals or an individual that does not seem happy with your presence in the village?

1.6 Do people in the villages ask you many questions? What sorts of questions do they ask?

1.7 Has a community member in a village – a patient, a community health worker, a king, anyone - ever expressed any concerns/worry with you about The TB Project?

1.8 Do you find it easy or difficult to work with the community health worker?

Probe: What makes it easy? What makes it difficult?

1.9 Has anything changed in the way you work with villages since the start of the Project?

Rephrase: Have you learnt anything in the course of working in the villages that has helped you improve your communication or process of testing with villagers?

Part 2: Experiences and perceptions of TB testing and patient enrollment

2.1 The The TB Project mobile health unit provides testing in villages to see who might have TB. In many parts of the world, people do not like to talk about illness or about TB. Are you observing any attitudes or ideas about TB in the villages that might be acting as barriers to testing or treatment for TB?

2.2 Are there any other cultural ideas, beliefs, or practices that you have observed that seem to make it difficult for people to get tested for TB or accept treatment? (*if yes* Has your team developed any strategies to address those?)

2.3 What happens once a patient tests positive for TB?

Probe: How are test results shared with patients (to the best of your knowledge)?

Could you describe what that involves? Were you involved at all in disclosing or discussing the treatment plan with the patient? If yes, did you feel well prepared for that?

2.4 Do people comply with the treatment normally in your experience? If not, why not?

2.5 In your experience, what motivates some to seek testing?

Part 3 – Perceptions and experiences of the Tablets and education videos

3.1 How have you used the tablets and educational videos put out by The TB Project?

3.2 How does the community respond when you show them the videos?

3.3 Have you observed any challenges related to the use of these tablets?

3.4 Did you get a chance to actually operate the tablet? If yes, was it easy to use or difficult?

Part 4 – Perceptions and experiences of Evrimeds

4.1 You show the Evrimeds to the entire community during sensitization. Do people ask any questions?

4.2 What is the process for giving the Evrimeds? What do you tell the patient?

Probe: Why is important things to say those things?

4.3 Have you observed any challenges related to Evrimeds?

Probe: Has anyone ever rejected the Evrimed?

4.4 Have you made any changes to the way in which you present the Evrimeds to the patient over time?

Part 5 - Closing reflections on The TB Project and technologies for health

5.1 What has been the best part of working with The TB Project?

5.2 What challenges have you encountered?

5.3 Has anything surprised you in your experience with The TB Project?

5.4 Do you worry what will happen when The TB Project ends?

5.5 Do you think The TB Project will change how people think about TB?

5.6 Do you think anything about the The TB Project program could be improved?

Rephrase: Has anything about this program been a little difficult for some in the village?

Close

Thank you. We have learnt so much. Is there anything you would like to add? Is there anything we missed?