

LATE STOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

REASONS FOR LATE COLLECTION OF STOOL SPECIMENS

Name of child _____ (*obtain from AFP case investigation form*)

District Division Date

Introduce yourself to the parent and explain that you are working on a project that is trying to improve the health of children. To make services better, we must first learn more about how parents and health workers think about some illnesses. We have heard that your child [*state name*] has recently been ill, so we would like to discuss his/her recent illness.

Tell me about your child and his/her illness.

Probe: What is the name of the illness? (What local terms are used)

What caused the illness?

Signs and symptoms?

.....

Treatment? Home remedies, etc.

.....

Why was that treatment used?

.....

Was it for Prevention?

When did you first notice your child was ill? (dd/mm/yyyy) (*Get dates as precisely as possible.*)

What did you do? (*Get dates as precisely as possible, of the onset of each symptom and the action taken and record in table below. If more than one action for each symptom, use more rows. Please do not crowd responses in one row. If more space it required use the reverses side of the form.*)

Probe about why they went to a specific person, healer, health facility, etc. to understand the reasons behind the decisions.

Then what happened? *Probe: Continue this type of questioning until the parent has described all actions up to the present.*

| Sign/symptom Or other prompt | Date (dd/mm/yyyy) | Action taken | Name/location of health care provider | Then what happened? |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|---|------------------------|
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Who was involved in the decision(s) about when and where to seek care from someone outside the family? Tell me about those decisions and how they were made.

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Now I'd like to ask you some questions about the care you received at the health facility/ies you visited. Tell me what happened when you visited [*the first health care provider*].

1.
2.
3.
4.

What did they tell you about your child's illness, and what did they do? *[If not mentioned, ask if a stool specimen was requested/given. Then probe on whether parent complied, and if so, when.]*

1.
2.
3.
4.

[If stool specimens were requested of parent]

What were your thoughts when you were asked to give one of your child's stool specimens?

.....

What reason was given by the health care provide for wanting the stools?

.....

What concerns, if any, did you have about giving a stool specimen?

.....

How easy/difficult to do?

.....

Where do people in this community get most information about health issues?

What, if any, newspaper are read regularly?

What radio stations, if any, are listened to regularly?

What TV channels, if any, are listened to regularly?

Which individuals are most respected when it comes to health education?

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What are other good ways to inform parents about polio?

.....

Provide information to the parents about the illness that their child had. Explain to them about polio eradication. Ask the parent if he/she has any questions to ask of you. Then thank them for their time.

Guidelines for Active Surveillance Person (Who Will Conducting the Interviews)

- Involve your social mobilization focal point and communications expert from the outset of the process. They should modify the interview form based on their experience.
- The social mobilization focal point and communications expert will be using the information collected to improve the communication and social mobilization strategy for getting stool specimens collected timely.
- The WHO EPI officer and the national AFP surveillance officer should use the information to better direct the provincial-level active surveillance persons in their sensitization
- Stress to the provincial-level focal points (interviews) that the style of the interview is conversational and not like filling out a form or a table. Train them to ask open-ended questions.
- Role playing can be used effectively during the training.