SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND BEHAVIOURAL DRIVERS OF ANTIBIOTIC USE
KEY-INFORMANT INTERVIEW WITH STAKEHOLDERS

STUDY & CONSENT INFORMATION

Introduction and study overview

Namaste! My name is …….. and I'm from a Kolkata-based organisation called Liver Foundation. We are conducting an academic research with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK, which is one of the topmost universities in the world in the field of Public Health. This research is to understand and document what types of antibiotics and other medicines are used by village providers in managing their rural patients and the main reasons for the use of these antibiotics and medicines. Our research regulations require that we give you some essential information before we begin, and then formally ask if you agree to participate.

Future benefits of the study findings

The focus of this study is on antibiotics because these are essential medicines that can save lives. However, their over-use also leads to the disease causing bacteria becoming resistant to the antibiotics. We are trying to find out what are the disease patterns here and what are the antibiotics used for those, whether any resistance is being perceived to any antibiotics, and what can be done to rationalise the use of antibiotics among rural communities and providers. This will help us to help the government understand the situation and to modify use of medicines, particularly antibiotics, among rural healthcare providers. The findings can be used in the government's training programme for rural healthcare providers. This in turn will be of great value to the health of the millions of people who rely on providers like you. Therefore, your responses and contributions will be highly valuable.

Study processes

The study is taking place in 2 districts of West Bengal – South 24 Parganas and Birbhum. It includes a survey of 100 providers in each district, followed by in-depth interviews and observations with 15 providers per district. There are also Focus Group Discussions with community members and in-depth interviews with important stakeholders like you who may be able to shed valuable light on the situation. We would like to interview you about antibiotic use by rural communities and providers and what can be done to rationalise this use. This interview will last about 1 hour.

Data use and confidentiality

We will take notes during our interview with you, and if you agree we will also digitally make an audio recording of the interview to ensure that we capture all your responses accurately. If you agree, we may use some quotes from your interview anonymously in our report. All information gathered will be treated as confidential. We will not use your name in any of our reports. We will take notes during the interview. If you agree, we may use some quotes from your interview anonymously in our report.

In addition, if you agree, we would like to take some photos here as a record of our activities. These photos may be used in presentations and reports about our work.

Participation in this research is voluntary. If you decide not to take part, there will be no negative consequences for you. You can stop participating at any time.

All information gathered will be treated as confidential. We will not use your name name in any of our reports. Data from the in-depth interviews will be anonymised for archiving. The identifier information will be separated from the detailed transcripts and notes before the data is stored on the LSHTM server. The identifier information

There may be no direct benefits to you for participating in this study. However, the collective findings of this study will be of widespread interest to Government and Non-Government stakeholders with an interest in engaging with rural healthcare providers to improve health for the rural population.

We may come back to you towards the end of this year to share our findings with you and ask your feedback on what interventions can be tried so that providers and communities use antibiotics more responsibly. Please give us your contact number.

Questions and study contact people

If you have any questions, you can ask them at any time.

If you wish to ask questions later, you may contact any of the following members of the study team:

PERSON 1 Dr. Dipesh Das, Liver Foundation, telephone number :

PERSON 2 Dr. Abhijit Chowdhury, telephone number: +91-9433045435

Do you have any questions for us at this stage?

<div align="center">CONSENT FORM</div>

Please tick all boxes that apply:

I have read the study information sheet and/or have been given a clear overview of the study	
I am happy for you to write about what I have said during our interview on the understanding that you will not reveal my identify in any study outputs	
I am happy for the interview to be sound recorded on the understanding that you will not reveal my identify in any study outputs	
I am happy for you to include quotations from this interview on the understanding that you will not reveal my identify in any study outputs	
I am willing to be interviewed	

Interviewee (name in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Signature   Date

Researcher (name in BLOCK CAPITALS)

Signature   Date