

APPENDIX 2: BOTSWANA PLWA INTERVIEW

Physicians for Human Rights
Botswana PLWA Interview
10.02.2004

1	DEMOGRAPHICS
	a) Sex
	b) Age
	c) Marital Status
	d) Occupation
	e) Education
	f) Geography of residence [rural, urban, migration/mobility]
2	How do you believe you became infected with HIV?
	a) What were some of the factors that made it difficult for you to prevent your infection?
	a) What are your thoughts around: - condom use? - having sex with only one partner? - abstinence as a way to prevent HIV?
3	What were your experiences around HIV testing?
	a) How did you find out you were HIV-positive?
	b) Were you tested voluntarily (in other words, did you feel you had the option to refuse the test)?
	c) If so, what made you decide to get tested?
	d) Where were you tested?
	e) What were some of the barriers to testing before you decided to get tested? Was stigma a problem? Was mobility a problem?
	f) What were some of positive and negative consequences of testing?
	g) Did you get pre-test and/or post-test counseling at your testing site? If so, did that help you come to terms with your diagnosis of HIV?
	h) Did anyone tell you how to get access to AIDS treatment, or work out a plan for you to get treatment at the testing site?
	i) What was your reaction when you found out you were HIV positive?
	j) Is access to testing a big problem in Botswana? If so, elaborate?
	k) Has there been adequate community leadership surrounding HIV testing in your community? Please elaborate.
4	In what ways do the barriers to testing differ for men and women?
	a) What are some of the barriers to testing specific to women?
	b) What can be done in your community or elsewhere to encourage more women to get tested?
	c) What are some of the barriers to testing specific to men? What can be done in your community or elsewhere to help more men get tested?
5	What do you think about the new policy of routine testing in Botswana?
	d) What do you know about routine testing?

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	<p>e) Do you think it is perceived as voluntary/coerced?</p> <p>f) Do you support this policy? Please explain.</p> <p>g) Does it increase or decrease barriers to testing? - How so? - Do you think it has increased or decreased the stigma around HIV/AIDS? Please explain</p> <p>h) What are your recommendations on how to improve routine testing? - Is lack of pre- and post-test counseling a problem? - Was it a problem for you?</p>
6	<p>Tell me about your experiences related to disclosure of your HIV status to others.</p> <p>a) Who did you disclose to? - Did you disclose to your sexual partner(s)?</p> <p>b) Did anyone else disclose your status to others without your permission?</p> <p>c) What were some of the positive or negative consequences of disclosure? - Probe for violence, shamed in home/community, convinced others to get tested, emotional relief, support from family.</p>
7	<p>What have been your experiences of discrimination or stigma related to your HIV status?</p> <p>a) Have there been any changes in your relationships, work environment, or friendships because of your HIV status? If so, please elaborate.</p> <p>b) Have you experienced any poor treatment at work, home, hospitals/clinics, or in other public settings? If so, please explain.</p> <p>c) Do you think HIV-related stigma and discrimination differ for men and women? If so, how?</p> <p>d) What do you think can be done to decrease the stigma surrounding HIV in your community or elsewhere in Botswana?</p> <p>e) Do you have any social support to help you cope with the challenges of living with HIV and AIDS?</p> <p>f) How important is your network of social supports (family, friends, co-workers, etc.) in dealing with problems you may have experienced since you were HIV positive? - Probe for effects of social supports on stigma, symptoms of depression, economic problems, access to treatment etc..</p>
8	<p>Tell me about your thoughts and experiences surrounding AIDS treatment (antiretroviral treatment)?</p> <p>a) Are you enrolled in BNTP?</p> <p>b) Are you on HAART treatment?</p> <p>c) If not, why not? What factors have prevented you from using HAART? - Was mobility/moving around a barrier to treatment? - Was stigma a problem?</p> <p>d) If yes, what have been your experiences with the treatment? What have been some of the challenges? What has been positive about being on treatment?</p>
9	<p>Do you think the barriers to treatment differ for men and women? If so, how?</p>

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	<p>a) What are some of the barriers to treatment specific to women?</p> <p>b) What do you think would help more women get treated?</p> <p>c) What are some of the barriers to treatment specific to men?</p> <p>d) What do you think would help more men get treated?</p>
10	<p>Some of the factors that make people vulnerable to HIV differ between men and women. What do you think are some of the factors that make <u>women</u> particularly vulnerable to HIV in this country?</p> <p>a) Is violence against women (rape/physical abuse) a big problem in your community? Please elaborate.</p> <p>b) Do you think women are valued less than men in society? If so, in what ways?</p> <p>c) Do you think women have less power than men in Botswana? If so, in what ways?</p> <p>d) How do these unequal gender dynamics contribute to the spread of HIV?</p> <p>e) What can be done to help women protect themselves against becoming infected with HIV?</p> <p>f) For women informants: Do you think any of these factors played a role in you becoming infected with HIV?</p> <p><u>Other domains to probe:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -negotiating power in sexual relationships -barriers or facilitators to ending or leaving abusive situations -need to prove fertility before marriage -intergenerational sex -exchanging sex for money or other resources -access to resources/dependence on someone else/family or partner to provide -any care/assistance/support receiving other than medical (home, legal, etc..)
11	<p>What do you think are some of the factors that make <u>men</u> particularly vulnerable to HIV infection in this country?</p> <p>a) Tell me about what it means to be a “man” in Botswana? What are society’s expectations for men, particularly with respect to sexual behavior? Do these expectations make it difficult for men to take the necessary measures to prevent HIV transmission? If so, elaborate.</p> <p>b) Is alcohol use (and alcohol use associated with sex) common among men? How does alcohol use contribute to HIV transmission?</p> <p>c) What do you think are some of the barriers to using condoms for men?</p> <p>d) What can be done to encourage men to get involved in AIDS prevention efforts, and to take the steps necessary to prevent HIV infection?</p> <p>e) For <u>men</u>: Do you think expectations for you as a “man” played a role in you becoming infected? If so elaborate.</p>
12	<p>Has your HIV status changed your sexual behavior?</p> <p>a) Have there been changes in the number of your partners?</p>

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	<p>b) Have you changed your patterns of condom use?</p> <p>c) Do feel that you can change your sexual behavior with your partner(s)? If not, what prevents you?</p>
13	<p>Has your HIV status led to other significant changes in your life or in your relationships with others?</p> <p>a) Have you talked to your peers or family about preventing HIV? About stigma and discrimination?</p> <p>b) Have you become involved in organizations or advocacy for PLWHA or around HIV/AIDS prevention? Have you become involved in issues of women's rights? Have you joined any support groups for men or women related to HIV/AIDS?</p> <p>c) Have you changed your behavior towards your partner(s) in other ways not related to sexual practices? Please elaborate.</p>
14	<p>What has been your experience with health care providers with respect to testing or treatment of HIV?</p> <p>a) Where do you get most of your care: modern doctors, traditional doctors or both?</p> <p>b) What do you think about the quality of care you have received in modern health facilities?</p> <p>c) What have been some of the positive aspects of your interactions with modern health providers? What have been some of the problems with your interactions with modern health providers? Have your modern providers treated you with respect and dignity? What role have modern providers played in terms of helping you treat and cope with HIV/AIDS?</p> <p>d) What have been some of the positive aspects of your interactions with traditional healers? What have been some of the problems with your interactions with traditional healers? Have traditional healers treated you with respect and dignity? What role have traditional healers played in terms of helping you treat and cope with HIV/AIDS?</p> <p>e) What do you think modern doctors can do to help encourage people to be tested or treated for HIV?</p> <p>f) What do you think traditional healers can do to help people get tested or treated for HIV? Other probes: - What have you learned from modern doctors about what causes HIV/AIDS? -What have you learned from them about how you can treat HIV/AIDS? -What have you learned from traditional healers about what causes HIV/AIDS? -What have you learned from them about how you can treat HIV/AIDS?</p>
15	<p>How well have community leaders addressed the HIV/AIDS problem in your community? Please explain.</p>