

Sample Qualitative Research Plan

Respondents	Focus Group Discussions	In-Depth Interviews	Complications Narrative	Observation
Women of reproductive age who have delivered in past 6 months	2	2-3		
Women who have experienced complications			3-5	
Elder female family influentials	2	2-5		
Husbands/male partners of women who have delivered in past 6 months		2-5		
Birth units (families & attendants) of women who had complications			10-12	
Community leaders/ Religious leaders		2-5		
Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) who have attended in past 6 months				
• Trained	2	2-5		
• Untrained	2	2-5		
Skilled attendants (Sub-categories depend upon local staffing patterns)				
• Nurses		5-7		3-5
• Professional midwives				
• Physicians		2-3		2-3
<i>Totals</i>	8	19-38	13-17	5-8

1. This plan suggests approximate numbers of respondents. Conduct only as many interviews as necessary to identify trends and patterns.
2. Multiply the figures above for each set of characteristics that may make a difference to current practices, i.e. different ethnic or geographic groups.
3. Add or refine specific topics and/or questions within the instruments as early data indicate.
4. Add new categories of respondents if suggested by emerging data.