

WHAT IS IT

IDIs are simply a conversation that allows interviewers to explore views and experiences on an idea, program, or situation. Led by a trained facilitator, IDIs allow participants to provide detailed responses to questions asked.¹

The aim is to gain broader perspectives of a research topic by understanding issues from participants' perspectives.

USE WITHIN NTDS

Participant Experience



NTD diagnosis can be associated with stigma. Discussing these topics can be a sensitive matter, making the private and confidential environment of IDIs preferable.²

Detailed Responses



Detailed interviews of individuals with knowledge of community relations or project management can provide insight into bottleneck processes during NTD program adoption.

HOW TO USE IT

SAMPLING STRATEGY

Consider whose attitudes and beliefs matter most to the research issue. Recruitment can be done through purposive sampling, which means picking people you want to speak to based on specific criteria (e.g. age and gender).

Sample sizes vary, but researchers use saturation as an endpoint. This simply means talking to people until no new thoughts or ideas seem to emerge

INTERVIEW PROCESS

An in-depth interview guide should be created to ensure questions are not missed. They should be open questions and encourage participants to respond to you with more than just a yes/no answer. Audio recordings of the interviews are recommended but participants should be asked for consent prior.

ANALYZING DATA

Procedural steps for analysis help analyze and organize interview data. The following steps are often included:

- 1. Transcription**
Acquire verbatim transcripts of the interview
- 2. Coding**
Use deductive coding (pre-defined codes) or inductive coding (open-coding) to code passages. Digital tools like excel and NVIVO can help with the coding process.
- 3. Analytical framework**
Apply an analytical framework to chart and interpret the coded data

REPORTING RESULTS

Participants should have clarity of how findings will be used and anonymized. Reporting results using stratifiers, such as m/f, position/role, and age, help with maintaining anonymity.

KEY STUDIES



- *Neglected Patients with a Neglected Disease? A Qualitative Study of LF*
<https://journals.plos.org/plosntds/article?id=10.1371/journal.pntd.0000128>
- *Neglected tropical diseases and disability – what is the link?*
<https://academic.oup.com/trstmh/article/113/12/839/5406189?login=true>
- *Challenges and opportunities associated with neglected tropical disease and water, sanitation and hygiene intersectoral integration programs.*
https://hsrc.himmelfarb.gwu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1126&context=sphhs_global_facpubs

WHY USE IT

IDIs uncover social factors that effect NTD program adoption. Individuals can highlight what they believe to be most relevant, allowing interventions to be designed in a way that meets individual needs.³

IDIs are preferable to focus groups when discussing stigmatized and sensitized topics. They also collect detailed individual responses, which are relevant when interventions depend on isolated user experiences.

In-Depth Interviews

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed individual responses • Sensitive subjects difficult to discuss in group settings • No social pressure for participants to conform with group dynamics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Time intensive • More complicated to organize • More complex to interpret • Not generalizable

References

1. Krentel A, Gyapong M, Ogundahunsi O, Amuyunzu-Nyamongo M, McFarland DA. Ensuring no one is left behind: Urgent action required to address implementation challenges for NTD control and elimination. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis* [Internet]. 2018 Jun 7;12(6):e0006426–e0006426. Available from: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29879105>
2. Perera M, Whitehead M, Molyneux D, Weerasooriya M, Gunatilleke G. Neglected Patients with a Neglected Disease? A Qualitative Study of Lymphatic Filariasis. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis* [Internet]. 2007 Nov 21;1(2):e128. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0000128>
3. Christine Masong M, Ozano K, Tagne MS, Tchoffo MN, Ngang S, Thomson R, et al. Achieving equity in UHC interventions: who is left behind by neglected tropical disease programmes in Cameroon? *Glob Health Action* [Internet]. 2021 Jan 1;14(1):1886457. Available from: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33641612>