**END LINE FGD GUIDE FOR ART PATIENTS**

**Introduction and aim of the discussion:**

My name is………………………………….

We are conducting focus group discussions on behalf of [Name of organization], MOH.

[Name of organization] and the Government of the [Name of country] have been implementing xxx different models in xxx [Name of places] for over a year now to try and find more efficient ways to to keep patients in care.

For this study, discussions are conducted with different groups involved in HIV care, such as professional health care workers and lay health workers. We also feel it is extremely important to hear from ART patients themselves and understand their opinions on the activities that have been going on since they are meant for them. That is why we have asked to speak with you; we would like to hear your opinion on the operation of these different models of ART care so far.

The discussion will take between one hour and one hour thirty minutes. The information we collect will be confidential.

*[NB: Informed consent forms should be signed and collected]*

**Introduction**

1. Kindly introduce yourself, your years and how long you have been on ART?
2. Why do you think this model was being tried out by the government/[Name of organization]?

**Retention**

1. The X (CAG, UAG, START, FAST TRACK) model has been at your facility for the past year now, how do you think this model has worked in helping you get care and stay on treatment?

**Probe** (intended and unintended consequences of the model)

**Model description**

1. What have been your experiences getting HIV care with this model?

**Probe** (stigma issues, logistics, religious objections to models, cost of getting to the clinic, long queues-informal payments)

1. What do you think helped this model to work well, if any?

**Probe** **contextual factors**

*Health Centre* (Location, opening times, residence, patient load, other services, human resource, infrastructure, supplies, leadership)

*Health providers* (Attitude, workload, numbers, facility in-charge)

*Lay Health workers* (Motivation, numbers, Commitment, incentives, competition, HIV status of lay workers)

*Patients* (Number of patients, loss to follow-up, education, commitment and ownership etc)

1. In your opinion what do you think were the challenges you faced in getting ART through this model, if any?

**Probe** (norms and values, relationships and power, ideas and interests, services related, community related, patient related)

**NB probe contextual factors (health Centre, health providers, Lay health workers, patients)**

1. Generally what are some of the lessons you learnt by being on this model?
2. How much of an impact do you think this model has had on encouraging you to stay in care (if any)?

**Probe** (negative and/or positive impacts)

1. What if any, are some of the concerns you have in relation to this model?

**Probe** (patient related, service related, community related)

1. What are some of the suggestions you have for making this model work best at this facility?
2. Given an opportunity, to what extent would you want to continue getting care through this method or you would rather go back to the previous system (before the model was introduced)?

**Probe** (willingness to stay on the model, willingness to encourage others to join)

1. How would you rate this model in helping you remain into care at this facility?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very poor | Poor | No effect | Good | Very good |

10) Overall, how satisfied are you with this model?

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Very satisfied | Somewhat satisfied | Somewhat dissatisfied | Very dissatisfied |  |

**Model modification and adaption**

1. If this model was to be re-introduced afresh, what would you like to change about it?

**Probe:** (Overall design, Recruitment, follow-up etc)

1. Is there anything else you want to discuss on the way this model has worked at your facility?

**Change in social support**

1. How has this model changed the level of support you feel you have in dealing with your illness? **Probe** (confidence to get help from other members in the group)
2. How close do you feel to the other x model members or do you see them mostly as a way to get your drugs? (CAG or UAG only)

**Patient exit survey**

1. What are the three most important things that influence how you feel about the CAG leader?

2. What are the three most important things that make someone a good CAG supervisor (peer/counselor)?

3. What are the three most important things that make you trust another CAG member?

4. What are three most important things that would make you NOT trust another CAG member?

5. What are the three most important things that would make you recommend joining a CAG?

6. What are the three biggest challenges you have experienced in your CAG?

**Thank you very much for your time and contribution to this discussion**