

TB and Latent TB Infection Survey  
Among African Refugee Women

African Refugee Women's Health Improvement Project

Summer, 2005

Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Refugee and Immigrant Health Program and  
Division of Tuberculosis Prevention and Control

# TB and LTBI Survey: African Refugee Women

Respondent ID: \_\_\_\_\_

## **① NOTE TO THE INTERVIEWER:**

The purpose of this interview is to determine the following:

- Perceptions of TB in the African Refugee Women communities
- Cultural factors that influence the lives of African Refugee Women who have TB
- Barriers and obstacles African Refugee Women face in initiating and completing TB and LTBI treatment

**Note to Interviewer: General information should be filled out before starting interview.**

### **General Information:**

Date of Interview:                    \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
Time Interview Started:            \_\_\_\_\_  
Time Interviewed Completed:     \_\_\_\_\_  
Interviewers Initial:                \_\_\_\_\_

Place /Region of Interview: (circle one)

1. Greater Boston Region
2. Northeastern/Central Region
3. Western Region

Language of Interview (circle one)

1. English (Standard)
2. Liberian English
3. Somali
4. Af-Maay
5. Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Questionnaire Used (circle one)

1. Standard English
2. Liberian English
3. Questionnaire translated to Somali or Af-Maay
4. Questionnaire translated to another language (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Location of interview (Circle all that apply)

1. Home
2. Public place
3. Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Instruction to Interviewer: Please read the following to the respondent:**

*“Good afternoon. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. The Refugee and Immigrant Health Program of the Massachusetts Department of Public health has asked me to facilitate this interview with you today. First, I want to thank you for your time and for your interest in this interview.*

*Our discussion with you will help the Refugee and Immigrant Health Program of the Massachusetts Department of health to provide better services to African Refugee Women who need and receive TB treatment.*

*We are interested in hearing and learning from you. However, if you feel uncomfortable you may refuse to answer a question. Additionally, there is no right or wrong answer, and if you do not understand a question please feel free to ask me to repeat it.*

*The comments, answers and responses that you give us will be summarized and be a part of the report. However, no names will be included in any report and they will remain confidential.*

*If you do not want to complete this interview you have the option to stop without any concern. Your comments or actions in this interview will not affect or change the services that you get.*

*Do you have any questions before we begin?”*

## **PART A: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

**Note to the Interviewer: Read the following statement to the respondent and circle the respondent's responses in their appropriate boxes:**

*First, I am going to ask you some general questions about your background.*

1. What country were you born in?

1. Somalia
2. Liberia
3. Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

2. How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_

If client doesn't know or refused to answer, mark the following choices:

1. Don't Know
2. Refused to answer

**Note to the Interviewer:**

**Please read the following statement to the respondent before asking question #3. When you ask the questions, please don't read the answers.**

*We want to make sure that all African refugee women get the best care possible, regardless of their race or ethnic background. We would like you to tell us your race or ethnic background so that we can review the services that all women receive and make sure that everyone gets the highest quality of care.*

**Note to the Interviewer:**

**This question is optional and if respondent doesn't want to answer question #3 and/or 4, please go to question #5.**

3. What would you say best describes your racial background?

1. Black
2. White
3. Asian
4. Mixed
5. Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

4. What would you say best describes your ethnicity? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you remember what year you left your home country?

1. Yes        If "Yes", Go to question # 6

2. No        If "No", Go to question # 7

6. What year was it? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note to the Interviewer: Do not ask question 7 if respondent tells you what year she left her home country.**

7. About how many years ago did you leave your country? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Since you left your home country, did you live **in** a refugee camp?

1. Yes

2. No        If "no", Go to question # 10

9. For how many years did you live **in** refugee camp? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Since you left your country, did you live **outside** a refugee camp?

1. Yes

2. No        If "no", Go to question #12

11. For how many years did you live outside a refugee camp? \_\_\_\_\_

12. Have you ever been thought how to read and write?

1. Yes

2. No        If "no", Go to question # 18 for Language

13. Where did you learn how to read and write? (Check all that apply)

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Koranic school        | Go to question # 14 |
| 2. Home tutoring         | Go to question # 15 |
| 3. Formal school         | Go to question # 16 |
| 4. Refugee camp school   | Go to question # 16 |
| 5. Other (specify) _____ | Go to question # 17 |

14. For how many years did you attend the Koranic school? \_\_\_\_\_

15. How many years of home tutoring did you have? \_\_\_\_\_

16. What is the highest level of school/education you completed?

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Primary school  | What grade _____ |
| 2. Junior high school  | What grade _____ |
| 3. Some high school/ secondary school  | What grade _____ |
| 4. High School/secondary school graduate                                     |                  |
| 5. Some college/university   |                  |
| 6. College/university graduate   |                  |
| 7. Postgraduate (master's, doctoral degree, medical school, law school, etc) |                  |
| 8. Other (specify) _____   |                  |
| 9. Do not remember   |                  |

17. How many years of "other school" type did you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

**Note to the Interviewer: Read the following statement to the respondent and circle the respondent's responses in their appropriate boxes:**

*"Now, I am going to ask you a few questions about the language(s) you speak and your ability to read and write in that language."*

18. What is your **primary native** language? \_\_\_\_\_

By **primary native** language we mean your first language.  
Sometimes it is also known as "Mother tongue".

**Note to the Interviewer: Write the native language in the space provided and ask the following questions.**

Native Language Specify _____	Very Well	Well	Not Well	Not at All
19. How well can you <b>SPEAK</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
20. How well can you <b>READ</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
21. How well can you <b>WRITE</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4

22. What language do you **currently** speak at **home**? Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Note to the Interviewer:**

1. Write the language currently spoken at home in the space provided
2. If the language currently spoken at home is the same as the native language above then Go to question # 26
3. If the language currently spoken at home is different from the native language above then Go to question # 23

Language spoken at home Specify _____	Very Well	Well	Not Well	Not at All
23. How well can you <b>SPEAK</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
24. How well can you <b>READ</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
25. How well can you <b>WRITE</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4

26. Do you speak English?

1. Yes
2. No            If “no”, Go to question # 30

English Language	Very Well	Well	Not Well	Not at All
27. How well can you <b>SPEAK</b> in English?	1	2	3	4
28. How well can you <b>READ</b> in English?	1	2	3	4
29. How well can you <b>WRITE</b> in English?	1	2	3	4

30. Do you speak any other languages?

1. Yes            If “yes”, (specify) Language One \_\_\_\_\_ AND Go to Q. # 31  
                      (specify) Language Two \_\_\_\_\_ AND Go to Q. # 34  
                      (specify) Language Three \_\_\_\_\_ AND Go to Q. # 37
2. No            If “no”, Go to **PART B**

Language <b>One</b> (specify) _____	Very Well	Well	Not Well	Not at All
31. How well can you <b>SPEAK</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
32. How well can you <b>READ</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
33. How well can you <b>WRITE</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4

Language <b>Two</b> (specify) _____	Very Well	Well	Not Well	Not at All
34. How well can you <b>SPEAK</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
35. How well can you <b>READ</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
36. How well can you <b>WRITE</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4

Language <b>Three</b> (specify) _____	Very Well	Well	Not Well	Not at All
37. How well can you <b>SPEAK</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
38. How well can you <b>READ</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4
39. How well can you <b>WRITE</b> in _____?	1	2	3	4



## **PART B: GENERAL TB PERCEPTION/UNDERSTANDING**

### **Note to Interviewer:**

**Please read the following statement to the respondent before asking the following questions. When you ask the questions, please don't read the answers. Mark the response that is closest to the respondent's answer.**

*"Now, I would like to ask you some questions about TB."*

40. Have you heard about TB?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't remember      If "no", or "don't remember" go question # 57.

41. When did you hear about TB for the **first** time?

1. Before coming to the US
2. After coming to the US
3. Don't remember

42. Who told you about TB for the **first** time? (Circle only one)

1. Friend, Relative
2. Medical worker
3. TB Clinic
4. Community Outreach Educator
5. Newspaper
6. Radio
7. TV
8. Booklet, leaflet
9. Refugee Camp
10. Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

43. What are the symptoms of TB? (Check all that apply)

**[Note to interviewer: Ask what else? Until respondent exhausts all her responses]**

1. Cough persisting for  $\geq 3$  months
2. Fever
3. Night Sweats
4. Weight loss
5. Coughing up blood
6. Others, Please specify \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do not know

**Note to Interviewer: Please read the following statement to the respondent before asking the following questions. When you ask the questions please circle the responses in appropriate boxes.**

*“We are also interested in hearing and learning from you about what you know and feel about TB. I am going to read some questions to you and please let me know what your responses are, you can answer Yes, No or I don’t know.”*

Question	Yes	No	Don't Know
44. Can a person pass TB on to others?	1	2	3
45. Can TB be prevented?	1	2	3
46. Can medicines protect you from getting TB disease?	1	2	3
47. Can medicines cure TB?	1	2	3
48. Is TB an infection caused by a germ?	1	2	3
49. Can TB spread through the air?	1	2	3
50. Can TB be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy?	1	2	3
51. Can an insect or a mosquito bite cause TB?	1	2	3
52. Can TB be caused by supernatural powers?	1	2	3
53. Can BCG vaccine protect a person from TB through out life?	1	2	3
54. Is a person cured of TB as soon as his/her symptoms disappear?	1	2	3
55. Should a person be treated differently because she/he is taking TB medicines?	1	2	3
56. Do you think people are afraid of taking TB medicines?	1	2	3

## PART C: INDIVIDUAL/SOCIAL PERCEPTIONS

**Note to Interviewer: Please read the following statement to the respondent and circle the response that fits best.**

*“Before, I asked you about your opinion regarding TB. Now, I would like to ask you few questions about your perception (that means what you think) about TB and please let me know what your responses are, you can answer Yes, No or I don’t know. There is no right or wrong answer.”*

Question	Yes	No	Don't Know
57. Do your friends and family worry about getting TB?	1	2	3
58. Is your worry about TB the same as your worry about housing?	1	2	3
59. Would you visit a relative who has TB?	1	2	3
60. Would you visit a friend or neighbor who has TB?	1	2	3
61. If a person from (Somalia/Liberia or country of birth) had TB, do you think she or he would tell it to a neighbor?	1	2	3
62. Do people with TB get concerned about being identified by others as someone who has TB?	1	2	3
63. If a person had TB, do you think it would change the way other people treated that person?	1	2	3
64. Do you think people who are not doctors – like traditional healers can cure TB?	1	2	3

**Note to Interviewer: When you ask the following three questions, please don't read the answers. Mark all the responses that apply.**

65. If someone were in a refugee camp where would you suggest he/she should go for TB treatment?

1. Traditional Healer
2. Doctor or Nurse
3. Friend/Family
4. Clergy
5. Others (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
6. No where \_\_\_\_\_
7. Don't know

66. After reaching the U.S. or Within the U.S. where would you suggest that people with TB should go for treatment?

1. Traditional Healer
2. Doctor or Nurse
3. Friend/Family
4. Clergy
5. Others (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
6. No where \_\_\_\_\_
7. Don't know

67. What do you think would make it hard for a TB patient to get treatment?

**[Note to Interviewer: ask the respondent "what else" until she exhausts her answers].**

1. Transportation
2. Problem with clinic schedule
3. Clinic waiting time is too long
4. Unfriendly clinic staff

5. Doubts about the care they receive from the TB Clinic/or provider
6. Language Barriers
7. Fear of cost of medical treatment
8. Fear of drug side effects
9. Have no one to take care of my children
10. Too Busy with other activities of life
11. Others, specify \_\_\_\_\_

68. What do you think would make it hard for a TB patient to **complete** treatment?

**[Note to Interviewer: ask the respondent “what else” until she exhausts her answers].**

1. Transportation
2. TB clinic is too far
3. Problem with clinic schedule
4. Waiting time is too long
5. Unfriendly staff
6. Doubts about the care they receive from the TB Clinic/ or provider
7. Language Barriers
8. Fear of cost of medical treatment
9. Drug side effects
10. Can't remember to take regularly
11. Too Busy with other activities of life
12. People tell me that the medicines are harmful
13. Others, specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Note to Interviewer: Please read the following statement to the respondent before giving out incentives and concluding interview.**

*“This brings us to the end of our interview and before we wrap-up our discussion on TB, we want to Thank you very much for your time and your participation. This*

*interview will help improve services to other women who come from your country of origin and Thankyou for being a part of it.*

Do you have any question I need to answer?"

**If respondent says yes, answer respondents question, provide staff contact information for future questions, give out incentive and conclude interview.**

**If respondent says no, please provide staff contact information for future questions, give out incentive and conclude interview.**