

Appendix C: Key Informant Guide for Healthcare Providers

First I'd like to ask about your direct experience with blood tests. Which test have you used?

1. Do you administer the blood tests (draw blood) in your patients to determine TB infection?
2. Do you interpret the blood tests results to determine if your patient has TB infection?
 - a. Please describe the procedures you use to interpret the test.

Now I'd like to ask about the established test, the tuberculin skin test

3. Please tell me a little bit about your experience with using the TB skin test to diagnose TB infection in your patients.
4. What do you feel are the benefits of using the TB skin test?
5. What are the challenges of using the TB skin test?

Turning to the blood tests now,

6. What were your **perceptions and expectations** of the blood test before you started using it?
7. What has your **experience** with the blood tests been so far?
8. What do you like **best** about using the blood tests?
9. What do you find most **challenging** about using the blood tests?
10. Based on your experience, do you feel that blood tests are preferable for any particular patient populations?
If so, which populations? Why?
11. Based on your experience, do you feel that blood tests should not be used in any particular patient populations?
If so, which populations? Why?
12. If your patient has conflicting results using the TB skin test and the blood tests, would you believe the result of the TB skin test or the blood tests?

Why?

- a. (Probe) If the skin test is positive and the blood test is negative, what would you recommend for the patient? Why?

- b. (Probe) If the skin test is negative and the blood test is positive, what would you recommend for the patient? Why?
- 13. What are some of the positive comments patients have had about the blood tests?
- 14. What are some of the negative comments patients have had about the blood tests?
- 15. How do you think using the blood tests affects patients' perceptions of their diagnosis?
- 16. What are some of the challenges you have had in communicating with patients about the blood tests?
 - a. (Probe) Are there any patient questions or fears that you have needed to address regarding the blood tests?
- 17. What resources and tools would be useful to communicate effectively with patients about the blood tests?
- 18. Do you have a general preference for one test over another?
 - a. If so, what factors most influence your preference?
- 19. What logistical challenges have you had with blood tests in your health care setting? (Probes: human resources, training, laboratory support – i.e. please describe your interaction with the laboratory?)
- 20. What are some additional challenges that you think other health care providers might face in adopting blood tests in their health care setting? (probe: indeterminate results)
- 21. What additional information about TB testing would you like to share with us?