UGANDA HEART INSTITUTE - RESEARCH STUDIES	
Study Title:	Accelerating Delivery of rheUmatic heart disease preventive iNterventions in Uganda (ADUNU)
Funding:	National Institutes of Health
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APPENDIX A.1: Interview Guide for Providers

Introduction:

RHD is the most common form of acquired heart disease in people between the ages of 5 and 39 living in Uganda. It is estimated that between 1-2% of all Ugandans in this age range are currently living with RHD, though few are diagnosed. RHD exerts a high toll in this age group with substantial morbidity and mortality and trickle-down effects of reduced productivity for individuals, families, and communities.

We are implementing ADUNU program in your district. **ADUNU** (Accelerating Delivery of rheUmatic heart disease preventive iNterventions in Uganda) is a package of interventions built around evidence-based practice for rheumatic heart disease (RHD) designed to be delivered within the public healthcare system in Uganda by local District Health Offices (DHOs) under the guidance of the Uganda Heart Institute (UHI), the Ministry of Health (MOH)-owned tertiary facility charged with preventing and caring for cardiovascular diseases in Uganda.

We are inviting you to participate in an interview where we will be asking you questions in regard to how this program is being implemented in your disrict, and your experience being part of it.

Interview #:
Date:
Location:

Note: In line with best practices of qualitative interviewing, the following list of questions will guide the semi structured qualitative interviews for Aim 1, but not all questions will be asked of all interviewees. Selection of the final set of questions and prompts will be determined by the interviewer based on the prior knowledge of the interviewee and topics raised during the interview.

(Adaptability)

1. What kinds of changes or alterations do you think you will need to make to RHD management so it will work effectively in your setting?
    - Do you think you will be able to make these changes? Why or why not?

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11 AUG 2022
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VALID UNTIL: 10/8/2027

2. Are there components that should not be altered?
    - Which ones should not be altered?

(Complexity)

1. How complicated is the intervention?
    - Please consider the following aspects of the intervention: duration, scope, intricacy and number of steps involved and whether the intervention reflects a clear departure from previous practices.

(Design Quality & Packaging)

1. What is your perception of the quality of the supporting materials, training, and bundling of the intervention for implementation?
    - Why?

(Implementation Climate)

1. What is the general level of receptivity in your organization to implementing the intervention?
    - Why?

(Tension for Change)

1. Is there a strong need for this intervention?
    - Why or why not?
    - Do others see a need for the intervention?
2. How essential is this intervention to meet the needs of the individuals served by your organization or other organizational goals and objectives?

(Compatibility)

1. How well does the intervention fit with existing work processes and practices in your setting?
    - What are likely issues or complications that may arise?
2. Can you describe how the intervention will be integrated into current processes?
    - How will it interact or conflict with current programs or processes?

(Relative Priority)

1. What kinds of high-priority initiatives or activities are already happening in your setting?
    - What is the priority of getting the intervention implemented relative to other initiatives that are happening now?
    - Will the implementation conflict with these priorities?
    - Will the implementation help achieve (or relieve pressure related to) these priorities?

2. To what extent might the implementation take a backseat to other high-priority initiatives going on now?
    - How important do you think it is to implement the intervention compared to the other priorities?
    - How important is it to others, such as your coworkers or leaders, to implement the intervention compared to the other priorities?
3. How will you manage competing priorities in your own work?
    - What are the other priorities?
    - How does the priority of implementing the intervention compare to other priorities in your health center? For your own work?

(Goals & Feedback)

1. Did the health center set goals related to the implementation of the intervention?
    - [If yes] What are the goals?
2. Do you get any feedback reports about your work?
    - What do they look like? Content, mode, form?
    - How helpful are those reports?
    - How can they be improved?
    - How often do you get them? Where do they come from?
    - Who designed them?
2. How does implementation of the intervention align with other health center goals?

(Learning Climate)

1. Can you describe a recent quality improvement initiative or an implementation of a new program?
    - Can you describe the new initiative/program and the motivation to improve/implement it?
    - Can you tell me the major milestones or key accomplishments along the way?
    - What factors helped make it successful/fail?
    - Who were the key "players"?
    - What was your involvement?
    - Were people happy with the outcome/initiative?
    - Can you tell me about how leaders were involved? Who? Their roles? How they helped/hindered?
2. To what extent do you feel like you can try new things to improve your work processes?
    - Do you feel like you have the time and energy to think about ways to improve things?

(Leadership Engagement)

1. What level of endorsement or support have you seen or heard from leaders?
2. What level of involvement has leadership at your health center had so far with the intervention?
    - What kind of support have they given you? Can you provide specific examples?
3. What kind of support or actions can you expect from leaders in your health center to help make implementation successful?
    - What kind of support can you expect going forward? Can you provide specific examples?
    - What types of barriers might they create?

(Available Resources)

1. Do you expect to have sufficient resources to implement and administer the intervention?
    - [If Yes] What resources are you counting on? Are there any other resources that you received, or would have liked to receive?
    - What resources will be easy to procure?
    - [If no] What resources will not be available?
2. How do you expect to procure necessary resources?
    - Who will be involved in helping you get what is needed?
    - What challenges do you expect to encounter?

(Access to Knowledge & Information)

1. What kinds of information and materials about the intervention have already been made available to you?
    - Copies of materials?
    - Personal contact?
    - Internal information sharing; e.g., staff meetings?
    - Has it been timely? Relevant? Sufficient?
2. Who do you ask if you have questions about the intervention or its implementation?
    - How available are these individuals?
3. What kinds of information and materials about the intervention are planned for individuals in your setting?

(Knowledge & Beliefs about the Intervention)

1. What do you know about the intervention or its implementation?
2. Do you think the intervention will be effective in your setting?
    - Why or why not?

3. How do you feel about the intervention being used in your setting?
    - How do you feel about the plan to implement the intervention in your setting?
    - Do you have any feelings of anticipation? Stress? Enthusiasm? Why?

(Individual Stage of Change)

1. How prepared are you to use the intervention?

(Opinion Leaders)

1. Who are the key influential individuals to get on board with this implementation?
2. What are influential individuals saying about the intervention?
    - Who are these influential individuals?
    - To what extent will they influence others' use of the intervention? The success of the implementation?

(Formally Appointed Internal Implementation Leaders)

1. Who lead implementation of the intervention?
    - Does this person have sufficient authority to do what is necessary to implement the intervention?
2. Who else was involved with leading the implementation?

(Champions)

1. Other than the formal implementation leader, are there people in your health center or district who are likely to champion (go above and beyond what might be expected) the intervention?
    - Were they formally appointed in this position, or was it an informal role?
    - What position do these champions have in your HC/district?
    - How do you think they will help with implementation? Getting people to use the intervention?

(Executing)

1. Has the intervention been implemented according to the implementation plan?
    - [If Yes] Can you describe this?
    - [If No] Why not?