

Development of a Structured Solution-Based Qualitative Survey Package Towards Optimized MNCH Care-Seeking in Rural Tanzania

Dhwani D Paul¹, Denise Buchner¹, Dismas Matevelo², Caroline Amour², Jennifer Hatfield¹, Respicious Bakalemwa², Teddy Kyomuhangi³, Boniface Maendeleo², Wemaeli Mweteni², Prosper Shayo², Eleanor Turyakira³, Jennifer L Brenner¹
¹Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary, ²Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS), ³Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST)



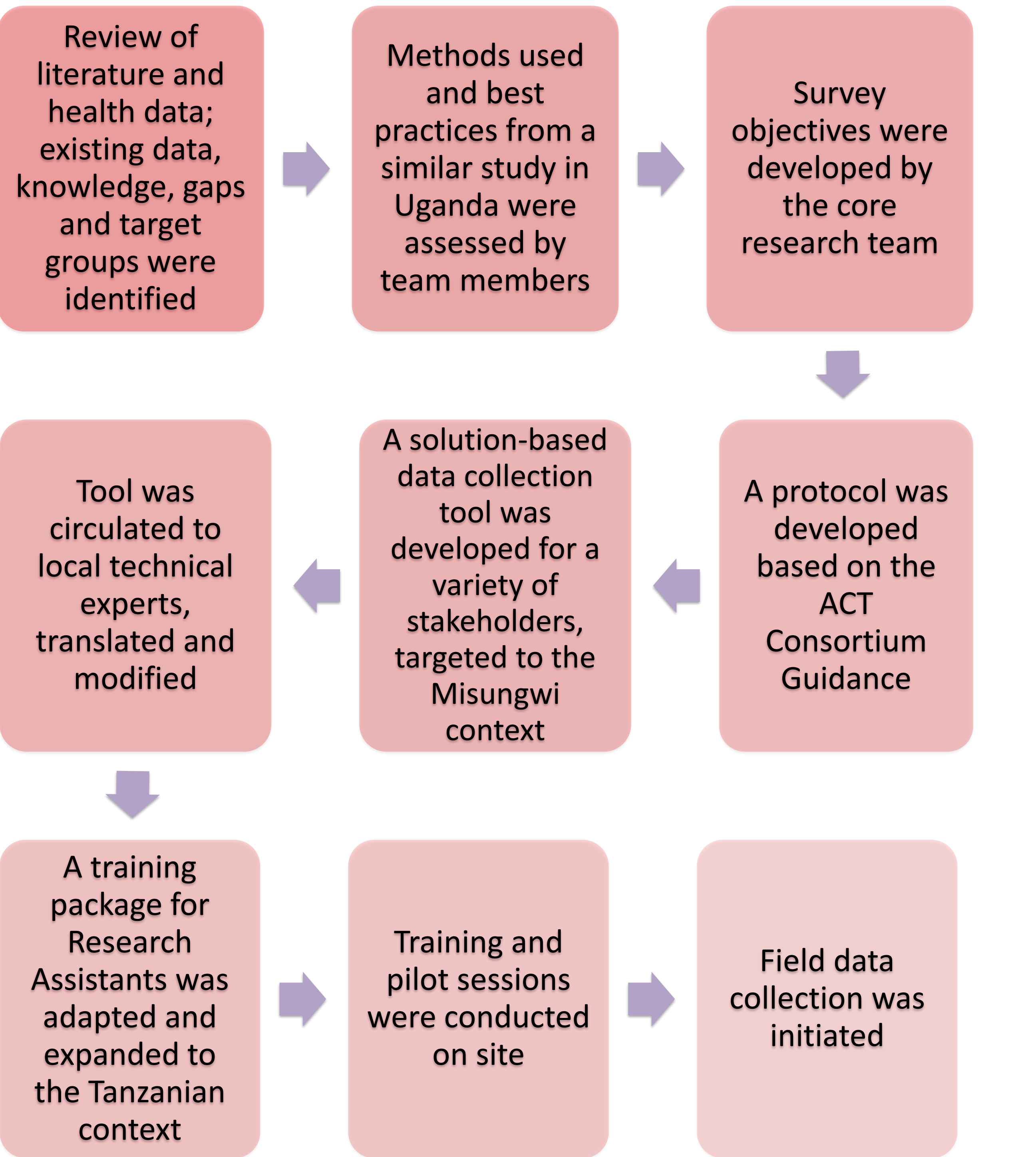
Background

Although barriers to care-seeking for antenatal care (ANC), delivery and postnatal care (PNC) at health facilities by rural Tanzanian women are well documented, factors that support care-seeking (“enablers”) for this population are not (Gabrysch, 2009). As part of a baseline survey prior to an MNCH implementation project in Misungwi District, this qualitative survey package was developed.

Objective

The goal was to enhance qualitative data collection in order to elicit community-based solutions in a low-resourced setting.

Methods



Results

A relevant solution-based qualitative research package was developed through a participatory approach. Focus-group discussions and in-depth interviews were designed for health planners. Relevant local considerations related to consent by thumbprint, background noise from children during outdoor discussions and community entry protocols for village government were required.

Interactive Participatory Training	Key Training Strategies	End Package
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Role playing• Video analysis of post-pilot recording of introductions• Mock interviews• Group translations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emphasis on solutions vs. problems• Facilitation to encourage voices to be heard• Emphasis on specific study objectives• Limiting the use of probes• Translation into local language• Education on the importance of methods and documentation in field testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A locally-relevant qualitative survey training guide• A qualitative survey protocol document• PowerPoint training slides• Focus-group discussion and in-depth interview tools• Standard operating procedures



Figure 1. Presentation in a local village. Picture credit: L. Lukowiak.



Figure 2. Mother and child. Picture credit: S. Bastien.

Conclusion

The ACT Consortium Guidance provides an excellent structured template, helpful for constructing qualitative data collection in limited resource settings. A local participatory approach to training and finalization of the research package was critical to encourage local relevance and effectiveness. A solution-based tool may provide constructive input for implementation design. The structured package designed could be modified for future local qualitative studies.

References

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