
Handout 6-1: Role Model Story Interview Guide

Screening Information (from the Stage of Change Spot Interview Guide)

Interviewer Name: _____ Date: _____

Interviewee Name or Pseudonym: _____

Intervention Population Name: _____ Age range _____

Gender: Male
 Female
 Transgender: Male to Female
 Transgender: Female to Male

Hispanic or Latino: Yes No Don't Know

Race (check all that apply): American Indian or Alaska Native
 Asian
 Black or African American
 Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 White

RISK BEHAVIOR, GOAL BEHAVIOR, AND STAGE OF CHANGE

Current or past sex-related risk behavior (unprotected sex, treatment, adherence) and goal behavior (e.g., condom use, fewer sex partners, treatment, adherence)

Risk Behavior (including type of sex and partner if applicable, out of care, not on treatment)

Goal Behavior _____

Current Stage of Change _____

If injection drug use is reported fill out the following for current or past drug-related risk behavior (sharing drug-using materials) and goal behaviors (e.g., cleaning needles or drug-using materials, using new needles)

Risk Behavior _____ Goal Behavior _____

Current Stage of Change _____

Introduction and Background Information (CHOOSE APPROPRIATE APPROACH)

1. APPROACH WHEN PERSON HAS BEEN SCREENED AND COMES IN OR MEETS YOU FOR THE INTERVIEW

Hello. My name is _____. I want to thank you for <coming/meeting me> today.

I believe that <staff member who conducted screening> has explained to you that we're interested in talking to people who are concerned about HIV or who have done something towards keeping themselves healthy and/or protect others from becoming infected.

2. APPROACH WHEN PERSON HAS NOT BEEN SCREENED

Hello. My name is _____. I want to thank you for <coming/meeting me> today.

We are interested in talking to people who are concerned about HIV or who have done something towards keeping themselves healthy and/or protect others from becoming infected. The first thing we need to do is to ask you some questions about yourself and what you do to control or prevent HIV. Then I can tell if you are eligible for the complete interview. May I continue?

___ yes

___ no Thank person and discontinue interview

Description of process

We want to know what people are doing about so we can write up their stories for others to see, like this one here [*show sample publication*]. I appreciate your willingness to share what you have done because your story will help others improve their sexual health.

You can decide if we can use your first name or identifying information in the final story. Before we begin I need your permission to use the information you give me today to write a story that we will give to other people. I am going to ask you questions and take notes of your own words so the story will be in your words.

As you know, we will be giving you [*describe incentive*] at the end of the interview as a way of expressing our appreciation. You do not have to answer any specific questions to receive this—if any question makes you uncomfortable, let me know and we'll go on to another question.

Do I have your permission to start the interview?

___ Yes (*ask person to sign a Role Model Story permission form*)

___ No (*thank him/her and discontinue*)]

READ THIS ONLY IF TAPING THE INTERVIEW: As *<staff member who conducted screening>* explained to you earlier, I am going to tape-record our conversation today so I don't have to worry about taking notes. I hope that's okay with you. The tapes will be erased once transcripts are made, and everything will be kept in locked files all the time, and will be seen only by staff who will be working with them—the transcriber, writer, and program supervisor. In the story that is used, your name and identifying information will be changed if you want us to do that.

TURN ON TAPE RECORDER IF TAPING

First, let me verify the information I have about you. You told *<staff member who conducted screening>* that you have *<risk behavior, ex., had vaginal sex or anal sex/shared drug equipment/missed medical appts/not adhering to meds >*. You agreed to talk about *< risk behavior >*. You also said that you *<goal behavior, (ex., used condoms/used clean or new needles/used PrEP/went to medical appointments/took your meds)> <every time/almost every time/sometimes/almost never/ never>*. Is that right? CHECK TO BE SURE THAT THIS MATCHES WITH THE SCREENING INFORMATION. IF NOT, GO BACK TO THE STAGE OF CHANGE SPOT INTERVIEW GUIDE AND RE-ASK THE QUESTIONS.

CHARACTERIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

1. Before we talk any more about what you have done or are planning to do to stop HIV, tell me a little about yourself, something about your background.

For example, a person might say that he is 24 years old, has lived in this neighborhood for 10 years, lives with his girlfriend and baby and works part-time in a fast food place. He left school when he was 16 years old and hangs out with his buddies on the corner by the convenience store where he drinks alcohol and keeps an eye out for girls.

[You can alter this example to fit your intervention population.]

BEHAVIOR QUESTIONS

Now let's go back to what you *<have done/are doing/are planning to do>* about HIV. [*choose phrase according to stage*] We are going to talk about *<goal behavior>*].

NOTES ABOUT HOW TO ASK THE QUESTIONS: Ask the remaining questions in turn for EACH goal behavior appropriate for the interviewee. Obtain the information about one behavior before going on to the next. It is important that all individuals who are interviewed have a current stage of change no lower than Contemplation for at least one goal behavior.

Make note of the respondent's stage for that behavior and alter the questions as below. For each stage use these phrases or the appropriate variant of the phrase:

Contemplation: thinking about the goal behavior

Preparation/Ready for Action: planning to do, trying to do, sometimes doing the goal behavior

Action: doing the goal behavior every time but for less than 6 months

Maintenance: doing the goal behavior every time for 6 months or longer

Set the scene for the respondent by confirming again that he/she is [*insert the phrase from above with the goal behavior under discussion.*] Remind him/her that you want to talk about [the type of behavior chosen in the earlier interview].

Ask respondent to choose one of these behaviors to talk about for the story.

2. Please describe your experience with *<goal behavior>*.

3. How long you have you *<been doing goal behavior>*?

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL DETERMINANTS

4. When you first started <doing goal behavior> what made you think that you should?

5. What other things influenced your decision to begin <doing goal behavior>?

6. How effective do you think <goal behavior> is/would be in protecting you against exposing someone to HIV?

7. Of all the things you mentioned, which had the greatest impact on your decision to start <doing goal behavior>?

BARRIER

8. What challenges did you have in <doing goal behavior>? What kept you from doing it earlier? What were the main disadvantages to <goal behavior>? What was hard about <doing goal behavior>?

OVERCOME BARRIER

9. How did you overcome these challenges? What helped? Who helped? What did you do?

POSITIVE OUTCOME

10. What benefits do you feel now that you are *[insert phrase and goal behavior]*?

If the respondent is at a stage of preparation/ready for action or above, you can ask him/her questions to create a second role model story. Return to the Behavior Questions section and ask all the questions again for the earlier stage, first setting the stage for the respondent by making it clear that this is what you are doing and what the new phrase will be. IT IS HELPFUL TO HAVE EXTRA COPIES THE INTERVIEW TOOL WITH YOU TO MAKE THIS PROCESS EASIER.

If there are additional goal behaviors to inquire about (listed on the screening section of this form), return to the Behavior Questions section and ask about the new behavior. You do not have to repeat the Introduction and Background section. AGAIN IT IS HELPFUL TO HAVE EXTRA COPIES OF THE INTERVIEW TOOL FOR THIS.

When you have completed the interview on all relevant behaviors, continue below.

IF USING THE RECORDER, TURN OFF TAPE RECORDER

Thank the interviewee for his/her generosity to the community in participating and being so forthcoming.

Ask if he/she would like to have the story use his/her real first name and identifying information or if he/she wants the name or information changed. Record the answer and the information to be changed if any.

___ Use real first name

___ Change first name to _____

___ Change identifying information including _____

Ask if he/she has any questions. Give the interviewee the incentive. Ask if he/she knows of others who might be willing to be interviewed. Give him/her any relevant referral information. Thank him/her again.