

Birth Parent Interview Tool

Infant Loss

Dane County, WI

2019

**** = priority question. If you are running out of time and need to skip questions, please prioritize the starred questions.**

Part A: Preconception Period (10 min)

A0. First, can you tell me a little bit about what brings you to this interview? Why did you decide to participate?

A1. Thinking back over the past five years (not including pregnancy), how would you describe your overall health? “Health” here includes physical, mental, and emotional health.

****A2.** How would you describe your interactions with health care services in the past five years? Health care could mean hospital and clinic visits, mental health counseling or treatment, or any other services you associate with your health.

A3. I’d like to learn a little more about you as a person. Can you tell me a little about your life in the past five years, other than your health? Maybe tell me a little bit about the people closest to you in your life, your living situation, any experiences with school or jobs, or anything else you’d like to share.

Part B: Pregnancy period (20 min)

B1. Describe how you felt when you first learned that you were pregnant with [baby’s name].

****B2.** Describe any unexpected changes you observed in your physical and mental health during pregnancy.

B3. We know that the help and support moms receive from loved ones can be really important to their well-being. During your pregnancy, how would you describe the support you had from people in your life?

****B4.** We already talked a bit about what your life was like before pregnancy. When you think back on your pregnancy, can you describe any major life changes during that time that stand out to you? Please share information on things such as a job change, relationship change, or a new living situation.

****B5.** Tell me about the healthcare you received (if any) during pregnancy and how you would describe that experience. [if the individual did not receive healthcare, move on to B6.]

B6. Tell me about any difficulties you had in accessing medical care during pregnancy. [If none are stated, move to B7]

****B7.** Did you ever feel that you experienced discrimination during pregnancy (based on race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or other category)? If “yes,” please tell me more.

Part C: Labor & Delivery (15 min)

**C1. Please tell me about the events surrounding during your labor and delivery.

C2. Tell me about your hospital experience following the delivery.

Part D: Baby's Life After Birth (15 min)

**D1. What was life after delivery like with [baby's name]?

D2. Tell me about any health care [baby's name] received after birth (i.e. check-ups, sick visits, NICU).

**D3. Did you have any professional support from a doula, home visitor/personal nurse, social worker, or peer support specialist? If so, how did that support affect you and your baby?

Part E: Loss of baby (20 min)

**E1. Please tell me about the events leading up to surrounding the loss of [baby's name].

E2. Who talked to you about [baby name]'s death? Examples might include: coroner/medical examiner, ER doctor, EMS personnel. What did they say?

E3. What support did you (do you) have as you grieve— from family, friends, professionals, or others in your life?

Part F: Impact of the Infant Loss (10 min)

F1. What are some ways the loss of [baby's name] affected your life, your family, and your community? (When I say "life," I mean it broadly-- socially, emotionally, physically, and spiritually)

F2. What advice would you give to all providers who serve pregnant women and infants based on your experience?

**F3. I'd like to end by celebrating [baby's name]'s life – is there a favorite memory or anything else you would like to share in remembrance of [baby's name]?