**Becoming and being a mother living with HIV**

Narrative interview – 3rd trimester

ID:

Date:

Expected date of delivery:

Location:

Introduction: The focus of this interview is about your experiences with being pregnant and living with HIV. The aim of this research is to get a better understanding of the health and wellbeing of pregnant women and new mothers living with HIV. Our goal is to use this information to enhance treatment and care of women living with HIV. There are no right or wrong answers. We are interested in your point of view and experiences. I'll listen first, I won't interrupt, and I may take some notes and ask you questions later.

The interview will take about one hour, and I would like to audio record the interview, if that is okay, to help me remember, what we have talked about. Only researchers involved in the study will be able to listen to the recording, and it will be deleted when we have finished the study.

Phase 1: The narrative

**Opening question: Can you tell me what your pregnancy experience have been like for you as a woman living with HIV? Start for example with the time, when you found out you were pregnant.**

* *No interruptions*
* *Only non-verbal or paralinguistic encouragement to continue telling the story*
* *Three commonplaces (Conelly & Clandinin 2006): temporality, sociality and place*

Notes:

Phase 2: The questioning

Main topics if brought up by interviewee: Explore feelings and experiences

 Stigma

* *Have you told anyone about your HIV status?*
* *Can you describe how you have been met by healthcare professionals?*

 Social support

* *How did your partner respond to your pregnancy?*
* *Support from friends*
* *Support from family*

 Loneliness

* *Have there been times, when you felt alone?*

*Please describe…*

 Stress

* Have you had situations during your pregnancy, where you have felt stressful?

 Depression

* *If relevant, probe further for emotional & somatic symptoms of depression (fatigue, memory issues, trouble concentrating or making decisions, loss of interest in things, changes in sleep patterns, feeling suicidal, feeling unhappy or miserable, crying easily, feeling scared, panicky, worried, anxious or guilty)*

 Perceptions about breastfeeding

* *What are your thoughts about breastfeeding when living with HIV?*

Probes:

 What happened then….

 Can you say a bit more about…..

 How did this affect your daily life?

 How did you deal with…

 *(No opinion or attitude questions, no arguing on contradictions, do not ask “Why”)*

Phase 3: Conclusion

* Why do you think…..*(why questions are allowed)*
* Is there anything else that you would like to share with me?
* Is there a question that I did not ask you that I should have asked?

Thank you very much for sharing your experiences and thoughts. I know many of the questions are personal, but everything you share is confidential. Thank you for your time and honesty. Your participation is a big help to us.