**Additional file 1: Topic guide for participants**

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| **Table 1: Topic guide for patient participants** | |
| Topic | Subtopics |
| Questions exploring personal factors | * Knowledge about leprosy and treatment * Beliefs about leprosy transmission and cure * Experiences of restarting treatment * Importance of health * Leprosy manifestations * Medication side effects * Medication compliance and coping mechanisms * Psychological impact |
| Questions exploring external factors | * Employment and future aspirations * Experiences of diagnosis * Access to healthcare * Importance of HCP * Contact tracing |
| Questions exploring support network | * Sharing diagnosis with community * Stigma * Family and social circle * Religion |

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| **Table 2: Topic guide for carer participants** | |
| Topic | Subtopics |
| Questions exploring personal factors | * Knowledge about leprosy and treatment * Beliefs about leprosy transmission and cure * Experiences of patient restarting treatment * Importance of health * Leprosy manifestations in the patient * Medication side effects and coping mechanisms * Medication compliance * Psychological impact on self and carer |
| Questions exploring external factors | * Experiences of carer role * Employment and future aspirations * Access to healthcare * Importance of HCP * Contact tracing |
| Questions exploring support network | * Sharing diagnosis with community * Stigma * Family and social circle * Religion |