FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF DONGOLA

RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Mothers Regarding Childhood Diarrhea Attending Specialized Hospital, Dongola, 2026

Questionnaire No.: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / 2026

Informed Consent

Peace be upon you.
I am one of the researchers from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, University of Dongola. We are conducting a study to assess mothers' knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding childhood diarrhea among children under five years of age.

Your participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw at any time without affecting your access to healthcare. All information collected will be used for research purposes only and kept strictly confidential. There are no right or wrong answers in the attitude and practice sections. Please answer all questions as accurately as possible.

Do you agree to participate in this study?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Researcher's signature: _____

Note: If the participant answers "No," the interview should not proceed.

Section A: Socio-demographic Characteristics

Please select one answer for each question.

No.	Question	Response options
A1	Mother's age	☐ <20 years ☐ 20–29 years ☐ 30–39 years ☐ ≥40 years
A2	Residence	☐ Urban ☐ Rural
A3	Mother's educational level	☐ No formal education ☐ Primary ☐ Secondary ☐ University or higher
A4	Family income	☐ Sufficient ☐ Barely sufficient ☐ Insufficient
A5	Age of the youngest child under five years	☐ <6 months ☐ 6–11 months ☐ 12–23 months ☐ 24–59 months
A6	Mother's occupation	☐ Housewife ☐ Employed ☐ Self-employed ☐ Unemployed ☐ Other: _____

Section B: Knowledge about Childhood Diarrhea

Choose one answer for each statement.

No.	Statement	Response
B1	Diarrhea is the passage of three or more loose or watery stools in 24 hours.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B2	Contaminated drinking water and contaminated food can cause diarrhea.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B3	Handwashing with soap prevents diarrhea.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B4	Inability to drink or breastfeed, and repeated vomiting, are danger signs.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B5	Convulsions, blood in the stool, and sunken eyes are danger signs.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B6	ORS replaces lost fluids and electrolytes and must be prepared correctly.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B7	Zinc reduces the duration and severity of diarrhea.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B8	Breastfeeding and food should be continued during diarrhea; withholding them is harmful.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B9	Antibiotics are always necessary to treat diarrhea.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know
B10	Some vaccines prevent diarrheal diseases.	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't know

Section C: Attitudes toward Childhood Diarrhea

Choose your level of agreement with each statement.

No.	Statement	Response
C1	Diarrhea in children is a serious disease.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree
C2	Diarrhea can be prevented.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree
C3	ORS is safe and effective.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree
C4	Zinc is important in treating diarrhea.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree
C5	I can recognize danger signs in my child.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree
C6	Medical care should be sought immediately when danger signs are present.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree
C7	Traditional remedies are better than ORS.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree
C8	Teething causes diarrhea.	☐ Agree ☐ Neutral ☐ Disagree

Section D: Practices during Diarrhea Episodes

If your child had diarrhea in the last two weeks, answer with reference to the most recent episode. If not, answer according to what you usually do.

No.	Statement	Response
D1	I give ORS and prepare it correctly.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never
D2	I give zinc for 10–14 days.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never
D3	I continue breastfeeding and feeding.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never
D4	I give antibiotics or anti-diarrheal medicine without a prescription.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never
D5	I seek medical care when danger signs are present.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never
D6	I wash my hands with soap before feeding the child and after using the toilet.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never
D7	I use clean drinking water and a sanitary toilet.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never
D8	I vaccinate the child according to the immunization schedule.	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never

Scoring Guide (For Researchers)

Do not show this scoring guide to participants. Use it for data coding and analysis.

1. Knowledge (10 items)

Scoring: Correct answer = 1; incorrect answer or “Don’t know” = 0.

Total score: 0–10.

Classification: Good knowledge = 7–10; Fair knowledge = 5–6; Poor knowledge = 0–4.

Correct answers: B1 Yes; B2 Yes; B3 Yes; B4 Yes; B5 Yes; B6 Yes; B7 Yes; B8 Yes; B9 No; B10 Yes.

2. Attitudes (8 items)

Positive items (C1–C6): Agree = 3; Neutral = 2; Disagree = 1.

Reverse-scored items (C7–C8): Agree = 1; Neutral = 2; Disagree = 3.

Total score: 8–24.

Classification: Positive attitude = 17–24; Neutral attitude = 12–16; Negative attitude = 8–11.

3. Practices (8 items)

Positive items (D1–D3 and D5–D8): Always = 2; Sometimes = 1; Never = 0.

Reverse-scored item (D4): Always = 0; Sometimes = 1; Never = 2.

Total score: 0–16.

Classification: Good practice = 12–16; Fair practice = 8–11; Poor practice = 0–7.

Researcher's Notes

Before data collection, confirm that the questionnaire language is understood by the target participants and pilot-test it. Use a consistent approach to recording missing responses. The scoring cut-offs above are the study's proposed classifications and should be justified in the research protocol.