

ANNEXURE IV

Interview Schedule For Gynecologists And Urologists

The following interview schedule was prepared with a view to understanding the perceptions of gynaecologists and urologists regarding childlessness and infertility. The schedule served as a reference during the interviews. No specific sequence of questions was followed; it depended on the mode of conversation

The interview began with a brief overview of the research and the participants were oriented to the ethical dimensions that were taken care of by the researcher. Verbal informed consent was sought from each gynecologist and urologist. The interviews were tape recorded with the consent of the doctor. In case they did not prefer recording, the investigator took running notes, which were expanded immediately.

Background information

Self

Name:

Age:

Education:

Occupation:

Address:

Contact numbers:

Years of practice:

Day and date of the interview:

Time:

Place:

Importance of parenthood

- What is your idea of parenthood?
- How would you distinguish motherhood and fatherhood?
- What is the importance of a child for an individual (man/woman)?
- What is the importance of a child for the family?
- Do you feel that having one's own child makes any difference to a person (man/woman) or the family?
- Would a child affect one's status within the family or society? Will it be different for a man and a woman?
- What is the importance of a child in the Indian society (for a man and a woman)?

Perceptions regarding childlessness and infertility

- How do you perceive involuntary childlessness (for a man and for a woman) in the Indian social context?
- As a doctor have you observed any changes regarding childlessness in society?
- How would you define childlessness?
- What is infertility?
- What role does the family play in case of infertility?

Etiology

- What are the causes for infertility?
- In whom is infertility seen more, the man or the woman, why?

Treatment-seeking

- When do childless couples approach medical treatment? (after how many years of their marriage?)
- How do couples react to infertility?
- How do men react on learning that they have a problem? How do their wives react?
- How do women react on learning that they have a problem? How do their husbands react?
- Among the couple, who comes in first with the problem? Who accompanies them?
- If the problem is with the man, then is the wife informed? If yes, when?
- If the problem is with the wife, then is the husband informed? If yes, when?
- How do they respond to the treatment?
- What are the common misconceptions about infertility among patients?
- What kind of treatment is given? What are the initial steps?
- What are the costs for the different kinds of treatments?
- Do you feel that the medical technology available is sufficient to treat the

condition?

- What role can the government play where treatment for infertility is concerned?
- What are the assisted/new reproductive technologies available? What do you feel about them?
- Do childless couples opt for these?
- What is their attitude towards the assisted reproductive technologies?
- What is the success rate of these technologies?
- How much do they cost?
- What are the effects of the assisted technologies on individuals (men/women)?
- What is the compliance rate amongst individuals experiencing infertility?
- Do they change doctors? If yes, then what could be the reason for it?

Coping behavior

- What kind of coping behaviors do you see your patients resorting to in order to cope with childlessness?
- Do they resort to alternative forms of treatments during the course of their medical treatment? If yes, what kind?