

Chapter 18 Medical anthropology and global health

CLINICAL QUESTIONNAIRE

In family planning programmes

- 1 In the patient's socio-cultural milieu, are there *taboos* (religious, social, cultural) against using artificial contraception?
- 2 Who makes *decisions* about reproduction and contraception? Is it:
 - a the patient?
 - b the spouse?
 - c the family?
 - d community or religious leaders?
- 3 Are *children* seen as proof of:
 - a adulthood?
 - b virility?
 - c social status?
- 4 Are there preferences for children of a particular *gender*?
- 5 Is *menstrual blood* seen as 'polluting'? If so, does this affect the acceptance of:
 - a oral contraception?
 - b intra-uterine contraceptive devices (IUCDs)?
- 6 Are beliefs about *female anatomy* related to the acceptance of IUCDs?
- 7 What forms of traditional, non-medical forms of fertility control already exist in the patient's community?

In urbanization

- 8 What health problems of the *urban poor* are due mainly to their:
 - a poverty?
 - b physical environment?
 - c psychosocial stress?
 - d health beliefs and behaviours?

In immunizations

- 9 Do patients know which disease is being immunized against?
- 10 Do patients believe that immunizations:
 - a prevent disease?
 - b treat disease?
 - c 'strengthen' the child?

In diarrhoeal diseases

- 11 Which types of diarrhoea are regarded as *normal*?
- 12 Which types are regarded as *abnormal*?
- 13 Which are regarded as more *serious*:
 - a watery diarrhoea
 - b bloody diarrhoea?
- 14 Which types are blamed on natural, social or supernatural causes?

- 15 Which types are *treated* by home remedies or traditional healers?
- 16 What are attitudes towards the use of *oral rehydration therapy* (ORT)?

In acute respiratory infections

- 17 What beliefs exist about the significance of different types of:
- a breathing patterns?
 - b cough?
 - c wheeze?
 - d phlegm?
 - e chest movements?
 - f fever?
- 18 What types of home, over-the-counter or medical *treatments* are thought to be appropriate for each of these?