# Health Financing

## Main Objective

To identify patient and system-level financing barriers affecting affordability of SSSD services, including identification of costs incurred along patients’ care seeking journeys and during treatment uptake and continuation, as well as system level resource constraints identified through the different themes.

**Research Questions**

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| What financial and non-financial barriers impact on a patients’ ability to seek and reach care? | * Phases 1-3: Qualitative, which informed Phase 4 * Phase 4:   + Person affected and caregiver survey (SES, direct/indirect costs, barriers)   *\* The current e-mail discussion is around the addition of qualitative tools to answer these questions* | Person affected and caregiver survey will only take place in one county (Lofa) at baseline and endline  *Community survey will only take place in one county (Lofa) at baseline and endline to identify general attitudes, including stigma, towards NTDs, identify the mental health status of communities, employment and income of others, costs associated with care-seeking health treatment - NOT SURE IF IT IS EFFICIENT.* |
| What financial barriers compromise patients’ ability to pay for services and successfully engage in further care? |
| What are the intervention costs of implementation of integrated case management?  What financing constraints compromise the health systems ability at different levels to adequately support the SSSD patient journey?  How is the Revolving Drug Fund relates to SSSDs costs? | * Phase 4:   + County level – budgeting and expenses   + MoH – budgeting and expenses   + Health worker facility – time dedication   *\* There is no financial data at health facility level* | Tool to be developed  Health worker survey will take place in each of the 3 intervention counties - Lofah, GG, Margibi – at baseline and endline  *Considering data will come from 4 different sources – patient, health worker, county and MoH), which do not necessarily overlap, we may need to separate the analysis into a case study (Lofa) and a general one (trying to put together the different sources).* |
| What tools currently exist that allow the systematic collection of patient and health intervention related costs in relation to SSSDs in Liberia and from other Sub-Saharan African countries (and globally if necessary)? | * Literature review grey and academic literature * Interview key MoH - qualitative | Tool to be developed |
| How can these tools be adapted to be applicable and appropriate in Liberia and other sub- Saharan African settings? | *Not sure we will be able to answer this question.* | Person affected and caregiver survey has some questions about it |
| What is the landscape of health seeking regarding alternative care providers (e.g. private or traditional) and what financing implications arise during this health seeking? | *Not sure we will be able to answer this question.* |  |