Preparing for the show

Start here

There are many different ways to talk about Child Eye Health, enough for several shows. For example:

1. Main causes and solutions of childhood blindness
2. Child eye care steps to take when your baby is born
3. Knowing the basics about Child Eye Health
4. Busting myths around childhood blindness

Find people to speak to in your community.

Find out more.

Educate yourself more on the topic:

1. Orbis Africa: www.orbis.org/pages/research/
2. Kids Eyes Online: www.kidseyesonline.com/busting-7-myths-about-childrens-eye-care/
4. WHO: www.who.int/blindness/en/
5. Key phrases to Google: myths on child blindness, facts on child blindness, child eye care

Also remember there are lots of local resources: newspapers, community-based organisations, medical practitioners

Ethics and consent. This is a sensitive topic, so make sure you inform your interviewees properly and get their full consent. Remember pg 10-11

Choose one angle. Refer to pg 14-15

Find different ways to talk about the topic and structure your show outline. Refer to pg 17-20

Start here

1. Community members (young and old) to find out what myths they know about childhood blindness and what the facts are.
2. A care giver who looks after a child who recovered from childhood blindness and the myths or misinformation they struggled with.
3. A young person who suffered from childhood blindness
4. Medical professionals (doctors and nurses) that work with child eye health
5. Traditional healers who work with medical professionals to put a stop to childhood blindness.

Beginning

Intro
Intro vox pops
Vox Pops:
Ask fellow young neighbours: ‘What myths exist about childhood blindness and what are the facts’
Outro vox pops
Music vox pops

Intro audio commentary
Audio commentary
A young person reflecting on why it’s important to know your facts about child eye health.
Outro commentary
Music transition & jingle
Intro audio profile
Audio profile:
A profile of a caregiver on their experience of struggling with myths or misinformation and how they found out the facts and helped their child recover from childhood blindness.

Middle

End

Intro interview
Interview:
1) A medical professional (doctor and/ or a nurse) on what myths they know exist and why they are not true.
2) A traditional healer on ways in which they work with medical professionals

Outro interview
Music transition & jingle
PSA: Promote knowing facts over believing myths around childhood blindness.
Outro the show

You must always introduce your show and radio features. Then once you’ve played your features have a concluding statement for each one. Don’t forget a final conclusion for the very end of the show. Use links (facts, tips, did you know, music) to glue it all together.

Write your radio script and produce your radio features. Refer to pg 21-24
Knowing the facts, Busting myths - Child Eye Health

‘Will my child’s sight return if a family conflict is settled?’ ‘What if my child loses an eye?’ ‘What if this child is meant to be like this?’ These are some of the questions we often hear about childhood blindness. The answers all lie in knowing the facts and busting myths around causes and solutions of childhood blindness.

Did you know?

Many easily curable eye problems in children go undiagnosed because of a lack of understanding of the importance of testing and diagnosing eye problems in children.

Sometimes a parent is concerned about their child’s eyes but they feel it is too early to take action, or a concerned parent is advised by family, friends, doctor or educator to wait until the child is older, before seeing an eye care professional.

IT IS NEVER TO EARLY TO TEST A CHILD’S EYES OR START TREATMENT FOR AN EYE PROBLEM.

True/False

True… Causes of childhood blindness (mainly cataracts) can be inherited
False… It’s in the family, so it stays that way
True… Eye surgery is easy and successful!
False… Only traditional medicine can heal child eye blindness.
True… Just visiting a clinic is NOT enough.

Tips

How to identify a potential cataract

- You notice white, grayish-white, or yellow material in the pupil of a child’s eye.
- A child’s eyes seem sensitive to light.
- A white spot on the pupil
- Any signs that a child cannot see well
- If you notice any of these signs, insist on an eye test at your local clinic, hospital or optometrist
- If after the tests or medication the signs still carry on, go back to your local clinic, optometrist and hospital.

Questions for your interview:

1. Why do you think myths exist around child blindness?
2. What are the most common myths you know?
3. Why are they untrue?
4. What is the main cause of child blindness in South Africa?
5. What are the ways you can prevent or solve child blindness?
6. There are a lot of people who are scared of eye surgery, is it really dangerous?
7. What advice do you have for caregivers who feel trapped by stigma or myths on child blindness?

Refer to pg 8-10

You’ve finalised your script, produced your radio features, and finalised your show clock.

It’s time to go live on air!

How to present your show

Intro:

Host 1: It’s just gone [TIME] and you’re just in time for the [NAME OF SHOW] on [RADIO STATION]. My name is [NAME]…

Host 2: And my name is [NAME], and on today’s show we want to get down and dirty with the facts around childhood blindness, so we can bust the myths!

Host 1: Yeah, I’m sure the myths we’ve heard are the same ones you have, and today is the day when we find out what’s true and what’s false.

Host 2: We spoke to [INSERT NAME OF CARE GIVER] about the myths she believed and how she overcame the stigma and myths to help her child recover from childhood blindness.

[PLAY AUDIO PROFILE]

Questions for your interview:

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3. Why are they untrue?
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Outro:

Host 1: It’s so important to know your facts from myths. Sometimes we can get so caught up in believing what other people say that we can be blind to the simple solutions in front of us.

Host 2: I think for me, learning that traditional healers and medical professionals can work TOGETHER, is so powerful! If you want to hear more, tune into our show next week [DAY] at [TIME]. Till then, it’s bye from us!

You’ve finalised your script, produced your radio features, and finalised your show clock.

It’s time to go live on air!

Prepare to present your show. Refer to pg 25-28