Appendix 1 – interview guide

SNIFS STUDY Steam inhalation and Nasal Irrigation For recurrent Sinusitis REC 07/Q1704/69

Part one: Experiences of Sinusitis

1. Could you tell me how severe you feel your sinus problem is to you?

Prompts:

A: What particularly bothers you about your sinus problems? B: Can you explain to me why this affects you?

2. Could you tell me how often you become affected by your sinus problem?

Prompts:

A: Are they a problem everyday?

B: When did they first become a problem?

C: Do you have times when your sinus symptoms don't affect you?

D: Does your sinus problem prevent you from doing anything? (details of this/how does this make you feel).

3. Could you tell me how you feel about visiting the doctors about your sinus problems?

Prompts:

A: Have you seen any other healthcare professional about your symptoms? (nurse etc) B: Do you find it helpful to visit a doctor about your symptoms?

4. Do you have any ideas about what could be causing your particular sinus problems?

Prompts

A: Do you think it is something to do with how you are made?

B: Do you think it is to do with bacteria and viruses?

Part two: Experiences and views of treatments

6. What treatments have you used to treat your sinus problems in the past?

Prompts:

A: Can you think of something that worked well?

- B: Can you think of something that didn't help at all?
- C: Where did you get the information from for these treatments?

7. Before this study, had you ever heard about using nasal irrigation?

Prompts

- A: How do you feel about it?
- B: Do you think it would help to relieve symptoms?
- C: Do you think it might have any side effects?
- D: How often do you think it should be used for?
- E: How have you found using nasal irrigation?

8. Had you heard about using steam inhalation to treat sinusitis before taking part in the study?

Prompts

A: How do you feel about it?

- B: Do you think it would help to relieve symptoms?
- C: Do you think it might have any side effects?
- D: How often do you think it should be used for?
- E. How have you found using steam?

9. Have you ever had antibiotics for your sinus problems?

Prompts

- A: How did you find using antibiotics?
- B: Would you consider using antibiotics again for your sinus problems?
- C: Have you heard of any problems with using antibiotics, such as side effects.
- D: Have you heard about bacteria becoming resistant to antibiotics?

E: Where did you hear about these issues (tv, newspapers, GP, others etc)

Conclusion

10. Are there any other relevant issues we haven't covered that you would like to mention?

11. Are there any questions you that would like to ask me?