

Document S2: Topic guide

Post-operative patient interviews

NB This guide is necessarily provisional, as its application will depend on the experience of individual participants.

<p>Introduction</p> <p>❖ <i>Researcher explains research, asks if any queries on PIS, and takes consent.</i></p>
<p>Motivations to undergo surgery</p> <p>- To start off, I was just wondering if you could tell me a bit about what factors led to your decision to go for surgery?</p>
<p>Expected outcomes of surgery</p> <p>- If you can think back to a few weeks before you had the surgery, can you remember how you were feeling about having surgery? <i>Probe: Was there anything you were worried about? [Prompt on risks/side-effects of surgery]</i> <i>Probe: Was there anything you hoped would change for the better by having the surgery?</i> <i>Probe: Was there anything you were hoping to prevent by having surgery?</i></p>
<p>Actual outcomes of surgery</p> <p>- How do you feel about having had surgery now? <i>Probe: Which operation did you have?</i> <i>Probe: How long ago was it now?</i> <i>Probe: What's happened since? [Prompt on the things they said they were worried about/hoped would change/hoped they would prevent by having surgery]</i> <i>Probe: Was there anything that happened that you didn't expect? [Prompt on during surgery and after surgery]</i> <i>Probe: Are you glad you had the surgery?</i> <i>Probe: Do you think having the operation has changed your relationships with people who are important to you?</i></p> <p>- To you, what are the most important results of surgery? <i>If they say weight loss, Probe: What does weight loss mean for you?</i> <i>Probe: Are these things different to what you would have said before having surgery?</i> <i>Probe: What results of surgery might be most important to other people undergoing the surgery?</i> <i>If yes, Probe: How are they different?</i></p> <p>- Are there any things that you didn't know beforehand that you wished you had?</p> <p>- What do you think will happen in the future?</p>
<p>Expectations of follow-up care</p> <p>- If you can think back to a few weeks before you had the surgery, can you remember if you had any expectations or ideas about the care you would receive after surgery? <i>[Prompt on short-term inpatient care and long-term care]</i></p>
<p>Actual experiences of follow-up care</p> <p>- Since you've had your surgery, have you been back to the hospital? <i>[Prompt on the surgical and weight management teams,]</i> <i>Probe: What about your GP practice, have you seen anyone there since your surgery?</i> <i>Probe: Do you think there is a role for more follow-up care from primary care?</i></p> <p>- What do you think will happen next?</p> <p>- How do you feel about the NHS care you have received since your surgery? <i>Probe: Tell me about the things you found most helpful</i> <i>Probe: Tell me about the things you found least helpful</i> <i>Probe: Is there anything you would have preferred to have been done differently?/Is there anything you think the NHS could have done to better support you since you've had your surgery?</i></p> <p>- Could you say what you thought the most important things of good care after weight loss surgery were? <i>Probe: Who would be the best person/people to do that?</i> <i>Probe: What would be the best setting for this? [Prompt on hospital/ another setting]</i> <i>Probe: Do you think these are the same things that others who've had surgery would say?</i></p> <p>- What about support groups – have you been involved with any of these? <i>If yes Probe: Do you tend to go to meetings or do you use online forums?</i> <i>Probe: How do you find these? [Prompt on positive and negative aspects]</i> <i>If no Probe: What's stopped you from getting involved? [ie. prompt on if unaware of them, none convenient, don't find helpful]</i> <i>If used to be involved but now no longer involved Probe: What's led to this?</i></p>

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Clarifications, etc. ❖ <i>Researcher asks participant to provide more information where points of interest were not previously probed.</i>
Wind-down ❖ <i>Researcher checks topic guide for omissions and prompts informant back towards areas of discussion where they seemed most comfortable.</i>
Case report form ❖ <i>Researcher records relevant socio-demographic and clinical details using the case report form.</i>
Closing ❖ <i>Researcher asks if patient would be interested in being contacted about a possible follow-up interview – to be recorded on consent form</i> ❖ <i>Researcher thanks interviewee for participating and asks if they would like a summary of the study results once complete</i>