

**SUPPLEMENTARY BOX 1: General practice prescriber interview topic guide**

1. Please briefly describe your role as a prescriber in general practice

**PROMPTS**

- a. How long since you qualified/registered?
- b. How long have you been in your current/most recent post?
- c. Who is your employer?
- d. Do you have a specialism?

2. What are the factors which underpin prescribing decisions in your general practice?

**PROMPTS**

- a. How much do decisions vary amongst different professional groups?

**PROMPTS (examples)**

- b. National influences
  - i. National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence (NICE)
  - ii. Other guidelines
  - iii. Contract (e.g. Quality & Outcomes Framework (QOF))
  - iv. Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC) information or advice
- c. Local influences
  - i. Advice from the local prescribing committee (may be called Area Prescribing Committee)
  - ii. Local prescribing incentive schemes
  - iii. Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) (e.g. practice visits, guidelines)
  - iv. Patient factors (population, specific patients)
  - v. Electronic prescribing 'rules'
- d. Education, feedback and information
  - i. Feedback (e.g. from CCG) about prescribing practice
  - ii. Local primary care education programmes
  - iii. Informal learning (e.g. from colleagues)
  - iv. Access to electronic data about prescribing in the area or region or national (e.g. RightCare, ePACT2)
  - v. Information from pharmaceutical industry

3. How do the same or other factors currently influence your own prescribing?

4. What is your experience of variation in prescribing practice in your general practice?

5. FOR GPs & NURSE PRESCRIBERS: What can you tell me about how a practice-based pharmacist may influence prescribing in your general practice, and you as a prescriber?

FOR PRACTICE-BASED PRESCRIBING PHARMACISTS: What can you tell me about how you, as a prescriber, could influence prescribing in your general practice?

**PROMPTS**

- a. Do you have any thoughts on how practice-based pharmacists should be employed (by the practice/CCG)?
- b. What training or support may be necessary for practice-based pharmacists to work effectively in the general practice?

6. Is there anything else you would like to say about your current role, or about prescribing in your general practice (or area)?

**SUPPLEMENTARY BOX 2: Key Informant interview and focus group topic guide**

1. Please briefly describe your role with regard to prescribing in general practices in your area/region/nationally

**PROMPTS**

- a. How long since you qualified/registered?
- b. How long have you been in your current/most recent post?
- c. Who is your employer?
- d. Do you have a specialism?
- e. Do you have direct contact with general practices (or CCGs)?
- f. Are you involved in monitoring prescribing practice?
- g. Are you involved in supporting general practices to make changes to their prescribing practice?

2. In your experience what are the main influences on prescribing practice in general practices (amongst all professional groups)?

**PROMPTS (categories & examples)**

- a. National influences
  - i. National Institute for Health & Clinical Excellence (NICE)
  - ii. Other guidelines
  - iii. Contract (e.g. Quality & Outcomes Framework (QOF))
  - iv. Regional Medicines Optimisation Committee (RMOC) information or advice
- b. Local influences
  - i. Advice from the local prescribing committee (may be called Area Prescribing Committee)
  - ii. Local prescribing incentive schemes
  - iii. Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) (e.g. practice visits, guidelines)
  - iv. Patient factors (population, specific patients)
  - v. Electronic prescribing 'rules'
- c. Education, feedback and information
  - i. Local primary care education programmes
  - ii. Informal learning (e.g. from colleagues)
  - iii. Access to electronic data about prescribing in the area or region or national (e.g. RightCare, ePACT2)
  - iv. Information from pharmaceutical industry

3. What is your experience of variation in prescribing practice in your area (or region or nationally)?

4. (As you know) pharmacists are increasingly based in general practices. What is your opinion about whether practice-based pharmacists could play a part in influencing prescribing behaviour in general practice?

**PROMPTS**

- a. Do you have any thoughts on how practice-based pharmacists should be employed (by the practice/CCG)?
- b. What training or support may be necessary for practice-based pharmacists to work effectively in the general practice?

5. Is there anything else you would like to say about your current role, or about prescribing in general practice in your area (or region or nationally)?