

Appendix 2: Interview topic guide

Thank you for agreeing to take part in this interview.

As you are aware we are exploring the factors that affect the implementation of diagnostic thoracic ultrasound into respiratory physiotherapist's clinical practice. These questions have been created to explore, in detail, some of the factors raised by our previous national survey.

As this interview is being conducted by telephone / Skype etc, and we are not face to face please do not feel you need to rush your answers – you may want a little thinking time.

This interview is being recorded. Can we proceed?

Can you tell me about your experience of thoracic ultrasound to date?

What role(s) do you think thoracic ultrasound has for respiratory physiotherapists?

- Why?

I'd like to talk about "team support" in regards to physiotherapists using thoracic ultrasound:

- Have you received any support or opposition from senior management?
 - Support – impact on practice
 - Opposition – impact on practice
 - Has there been any response or action to the support or opposition?
- Have you received any support or opposition from other physiotherapy colleagues?
 - Support – impact on practice
 - Opposition – impact on practice
 - Has there been any response or action to the support or opposition?
- Have you received any support or opposition from non-physiotherapy colleagues?
 - Support – impact on practice
 - Opposition – impact on practice
 - Has there been any response or action to the support or opposition?

A very common reported factor in our survey that limits physiotherapists implementing thoracic ultrasound into clinical practice was “time pressures”.

- Have any ‘time pressures’ affected your implementation of thoracic ultrasound into clinical practice? (Probe re staffing levels, clinical pressures, educational demands, access to mentorship. Impact on personal experience and impact on profession in general)
- How might these issues be addressed?

One factor raised in our previous survey was the lack of understanding or a lack evidence to support the use of thoracic ultrasound.

- In your opinion what ways could “a lack of understanding” affect the implementation of thoracic ultrasound into clinical practice?
- In your opinion what ways could “a lack of evidence” affect the implementation of thoracic ultrasound into clinical practice?
- How might this issue be addressed?

I’d like to now talk about governance in relation to physiotherapists using thoracic ultrasound.

- Have you encountered any factors or have any opinions relating to thoracic ultrasound education for physiotherapists? (course content, structure, competency, CPD)
- Have you encountered any factors or have any opinions relating to thoracic ultrasound regulation for physiotherapists? (indemnity, registration, accreditation)
- Have you encountered any factors or have any opinions relating to thoracic ultrasound utilisation for physiotherapists? (professional remit/boundaries, scope of practice, accountability, quality assurance)