

Supplementary File

GP Wellbeing and COVID: Topic guide for GP interviews

Introductory Section

- Rerun through the Participant Information Leaflet
- Take verbal consent

About you

- *Can you tell me about your role as a GP?* (Time since qualified, contract type (partner/salaried/locum), working hours)
- *Can you describe your GP practice?* (size, location, patient demographic)
- (For returning GPs only): *What were your motivations for returning to practice?*

Feelings towards work and wellbeing

- *Can you describe how you currently feel about your work?*
- *What impact do you think your work has on your wellbeing?*
- *Where do you draw support from?*
- *How would you describe your mental health and wellbeing to be now, in comparison to:*
 - 1) *During other periods over the past year of the pandemic (e.g. first wave and second)*
 - 2) *Pre-COVID*
- *Have you been diagnosed or do you suspect you have had COVID-19 yourself?* (If so, probe for more detail – health, experiences and feelings)
- *For first-5 GPs only: How is your work different from what you expected before you specialised?*

Challenges and facilitators

- *What would you describe as your main challenges or stressors at work during this time?* (keep this open and non-leading – though possible areas of discussion could include risk/safety/PPE, movement to e consultations, remote working, reduced patient throughput, rapidly evolving guidelines, managing altered patient needs – long COVID, mental health etc)
- *How do these challenges make you feel?*
- *How does this compare to pre-COVID?*
- *Can you think of anything in particular that helps/helped?*

Supplementary File

- *Have any of these changes have been positive? If so, could describe which may be beneficial to carry forward after COVID-19?*

How can policy help?

- *Do you have any thoughts or recommendations as to how future policy, nationally or more locally, can support GPs? (Possible prompts include: national policy, support from Royal College, local plans at LMC, PCN or practice level)*
- *Incorporating wellbeing into GP appraisals - what are your thoughts around the plans to include wellbeing component in GP appraisal? How might this best be achieved?*

Future plans

- *Have your experiences changed how you view your future in medicine? (keep this open and non-leading – possible areas of discussion could include retirement or leaving medicine or working internationally)*

Closing

- *Is there anything else that you feel is important that we haven't yet discussed?*
- *Thank you for your time taking part in this study. The information you have given will be treated confidentially and kept anonymous.*
- *Ask whether they would like to receive a summary of the results from this work*