

Box S1: Topic guide – GP focus group

Topic guide – GP focus group

Refining VOLITION:

To facilitate the involvement of older patients, with multiple long-term health problems, in decision-making about their healthcare during GP consultations.

Ensure all participants have signed consent forms.

Ensure all participants have access to a copy of the workshop handbook (draft version) and teaching slides printout (draft version). Have video-recorded mock consultation (example scenario) ready to play after refreshment break.

Thank you for agreeing to attend and for completing your consent forms.

The discussion will last around 2.5 hours with a 30 minute refreshment break at <insert time>. We will be finished by <insert time>.

I would like to hear your thoughts regarding a communication skills training workshop to be delivered to GPs as part of the research project 'VOLITION'. It is a half day workshop, facilitated by a GP, with the aim of improving GPs ability to involve older patients with multimorbidity in decision-making about their healthcare during GP consultations.

There are no right or wrong answers today, I am just really interested in your views and opinions. We want to make this workshop the best we can before we test it out on GPs across Devon.

I will be tape recording the discussion and I may also take some notes as you are talking. Your comments will be made anonymous and kept confidential. If for any reason the topic of discussion makes you feel uncomfortable you do not have to contribute and if you need to leave at any time, please do so.

Please also be aware that potentially personal and confidential information may be shared by members of the group as part of the discussion. Please do not share this information with anybody outside of the group.

Do you have any other questions before we begin? Please take 10 minutes to familiarise yourself with the workshop handbook and teaching slides.

Topic	Timing (mins)	Question	Prompts
Intro & consent	5		
Previous experiences	5	Have you had previous experiences of a similar intervention?	<i>Other communication skills training interventions? Teaching re SDM?</i>
Acceptability of this intervention to participants	10	Practices will sign up to the study and we will then invite GPs from the intervention group to attend the workshop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How should we do this? • What do you think their reaction to it will be? • How could we make it more inviting to them? 	<i>Intrusive? Interesting? Useful?</i> <i>Cover letter/explanation?</i> <i>Incentive? CPD? Refreshments? Payment?</i>
	15	Read/familiarise with resources	<i>?with coffee</i>
Training resources	20 15 20 10	I would like to discuss the training resources one by one. What are your impressions of the... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching slides..? • Video transcript..? • Clinical scenarios..? • Peer-observer score sheets..? 	<i>Guide the group to discuss each aspect, offer time to briefly re-read, then consider:</i> <i>Content?</i> <i>Presentation?</i> <i>Delivery?</i> <i>Anything missing?</i> <i>How would it work in their own practice?</i>
After ~90 mins	30	*** REFRESHMENT BREAK***	<i>Food</i>
How effective is the intervention?	10	Do you think the workshop will be effective in teaching shared decision-making related communication skills to GPs?	<i>If not why not?</i> <i>How could it be improved?</i>
What affects implementation intentions?	10	How likely is it that GPs will implement their new skills in day to day practice? What do you think are the potential challenges of implementing the intervention in light of current 'best practice'?	<i>What might influence them to do so?</i> <i>What are the perceived barriers/facilitators regarding introduction into usual care?</i>
Any other thoughts or comments?	10	Is there anything else that you feel it is important for me to consider?	<i>Go round the table one by one</i>

Box S2: Topic guide – patient focus group

Topic guide – patient focus group

Refining VOLITION:

To facilitate the involvement of older patients, with multiple long-term health problems, in decision-making about their healthcare during GP consultations.

Ensure all participants have signed consent forms.

Ensure all participants have access to a copy of the patient support tool (draft version) with cover letter.

Thank you for agreeing to attend and for completing your consent forms.

The discussion will last around 2 hours with a 30 minute refreshment break at <insert time>.

We will be finished by <insert time>.

I have some questions to ask about your thoughts regarding this patient handout that is to be sent to patients as part of the research project 'VOLITION'. There are no right or wrong answers, we are just really interested in your views and opinions but please be critical. We want to make this handout the best we can before we test it in GP practices across Devon.

Before we start, is there anything that you wanted to ask?

We will be tape recording our discussion and my colleague will be taking some notes as we are talking. Your comments will be made anonymous and kept confidential. If for any reason the topic of discussion makes you feel uncomfortable you do not have to contribute and if you need to leave at any time, please do so. Please also be aware that potentially personal and confidential information may be shared by members of the group as part of the discussion. Please do not share this information with anybody outside of the group.

Do you have any other questions before we begin? Please take 10 minutes to familiarise yourself with the handout and accompanying letter.

Timing (mins)	Topic	Question	Prompts
5	Intro / consent		
10	Previous experiences	Have any of you used anything similar to this leaflet previously?	<i>Decision-support tools</i>
20	Acceptability of this intervention to participants	We plan to hand out this leaflet and cover letter to patients aged 65 years and older with more than one long-term health problem. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was your reaction to the leaflet? • How should we distribute it? E.g. Post/waiting room • What do you think patients' reaction to it will be? • How could we make it more acceptable to them? 	<i>Ask participants to spend 5 minutes reading the leaflet.</i> <i>Intrusive?</i> <i>Interesting? Useful?</i> <i>Changing the letter/explanation?</i>
10	What might influence intervention implementation?	Would you think about taking the handout with you into the consultation? Is there anything we could change about it?	<i>Why? / Why not?</i>
5		Is it easy to read?	<i>Font size?</i> <i>Language?</i>
10		Would you feel comfortable using the handout during your consultation?	<i>Why/ why not?</i>
30	(After ~ 1 hour)	***REFRESHMENTS***	
10	Whether the intervention is effective	Does the handout make you aware of the benefits of being more involved in decision-making about your healthcare? How could this be improved?	<i>Can you recall any of these benefits having read the handout?</i>
10		Do you think the handout would enable you to tell the GP whether or not you want to be involved in making decisions about your healthcare? How could this be improved?	<i>How does the handout assist you in doing this?</i>
10	How the intervention may be integrated into normal practice	Do you think that the handout could be used day-to-day at your GP practice? What would improve this?	<i>Why / why not?</i> <i>Suggestions to help with this?</i>
5	Any other thoughts or comments?		<i>Go round the table one by one</i>
		EXPENSES FORMS	