

Appendix I

Interview Guide

The goal for this interview is for you to take us through how you were diagnosed with prostate cancer and describe your experiences and thoughts about your diagnosis. This is important so that we can gain an understanding of the range of men's views and experiences with the disease.

Also, this interview will be audio-recorded to ensure that we have an accurate record of your responses, and everything you say will be kept strictly confidential. If it is alright with you I will start the audio-recording now.

Do you have any questions before we begin?

So firstly if I (we) could just ask you a few demographic questions:

1. **What is your age?**
2. **What is your current work status (working full-time, working part-time, retired)?**
 - Can you please describe your current or previous occupation?
3. **What is your highest level of education?**

Now can you please take me (us) through from the start how you came to be diagnosed with prostate cancer and how it has affected your life?

Prompts:

- GP / PSA test experience (screening or symptom led, informed about screening in any way or not)
- Specialist experience (tests offered, diagnosis given, prognosis given, treatments offered, communication)
- Language doctor used to describe your condition and impact of the term 'cancer'
- Second opinions
- Kinds of information given by the doctors about the diagnosis
- Feelings about initial diagnosis
- Experience and attitudes towards biopsy
- Impact on self, family, friends, life, work, feelings during everyday life, spirituality (refer to Brodersen et al. questionnaire items as potential list of additional prompts if issues not raised)
- Influence of family and friends in the process of treatment decision making and coping
- Trust in the medical profession
- Overdiagnosis – some people feel that there shouldn't be PSA testing in the first place – What's your view about that?
- Treatment decision making – What treatment was chosen? How do you feel about your treatment decision?
- How was information found?
- Impact of being part of a support group? (Prostate-Cancer Organisation)

If haven't mentioned: How long ago was it that you started on your prostate cancer journey?

[If appropriate] It sounds like you had a difficult experience with XYZ... To help us try and improve things for other men who may find themselves in your situation in the future:

Ask men to read out and discuss

Items from Brodersen quality of life questionnaire (Brodersen J, Thorsen H. Consequences of Screening in Breast Cancer (COS-BC): development of a questionnaire. *Scand J Prim Health Care* 2008;26:251-6.

I have felt scared.
I have felt terrified.
I have been worried about my future.
I have been upset.
I have felt restless.
I have been nervous.
I have been irritable.
I have been quieter than normal.
I have found it hard to concentrate.
My appetite has changed.
I have withdrawn into myself.
I have had difficulty dealing with my work or other commitments.
I have had difficulty doing everyday things around the house.
I have felt sad.
I have been worried.
I have felt time passed slowly.
I have been uneasy.
I have felt unable to cope.
I have been depressed.
I have felt less interest in sex.
I have kept busy to take my mind off things.
I have felt less attractive.
I have slept badly.
It has taken me a long time to fall asleep.
I have woken up far too early in the morning.
I have been awake most of the night.

What do you think is the most important thing that could be changed to improve the experience you had?

Well _____ I think we're just about ready to wrap up the interview. Thank you very much for your time, it is really appreciated. Do you have anything further to add or have questions for me before we wrap up?

Okay, thanks again and should you have any additional questions all of our contact details are provided on the Participant Information Sheet we handed out to you.