

APPENDIX 1**DRAFT INTERVIEW SCHEDULES / POSSIBLE AREAS FOR DISCUSSION****DRAFT PATIENT INTERVIEW POTENTIAL AREAS FOR DISCUSSION**

Thank you for agreeing to speak to me about your experiences and thoughts about how you have adjusted to life following the stroke event. As you know, your experiences in terms of what you have changed and your perspectives on life before and after your recovery are very important to us. We would like your story and those other patients who participate to inform and improve future services within the Bentley Stroke Unit. This is a time of adjustment to changes in circumstances for your family. So initially I would like to start, [name] by asking.....

- 1) Area around early days in hospital exploring for awareness, knowledge and of any changes in perceptions and values for the patient. Potentially touching on areas of communication with the staff on the ward. Any perceived changes when coming to Bentley Stroke Unit.
- 2) Exploring what helped, guided and assisted in the earlier days for patients. Also articulating how this may / may not have changed over time.
- 3) Relationships with others in immediate sphere and externally within a community. Thoughts and perceptions of the future.
- 4) Degree of preparation once back home in the community. This area will also seek to touch on support services and groups outside of the hospital system.
- 5) Support, if any, from other friends, family members over an extended time period.
- 6) Any other issues not discussed.

DRAFT STAFF INTERVIEW SCHEDULE – TOPICS MAY CHANGE DEPENDING ON RESULTS OF PATIENT AND CARER INTERVIEWS.

Thank you for agreeing to speak to me about your experience in the stroke unit and in caring for patients and their families affected by severe stroke. As you know, your experiences are very important to us. We would like your perspectives and thoughts to inform and improve future services within the Bentley Stroke Unit. So initially I would like to start, [name] by asking.....

- Q1. If you think about your role here at Bentley, what would you say are the perceived challenges and benefits of caring for stroke patients?
- Q2. Do you see any perceived benefits for stroke patients and their families to attending a specialised stroke rehabilitation unit? If yes, what are they and if no, why not?
- Q3. From your experiences, what do you see as the complexities, if any, of family members caring for someone post stroke event within their own home? What sorts of individuals seem to cope better than others?
- Q4. Do you believe that there is a role for you in transitioning patients and their families towards living back within a community setting? If so, what would that role look like to you? If not, can you explain why you might feel this way?
- Q5. Can you tell me of any good examples of personal experiences whereby a patient has transitioned well and conversely one who did not transition successfully? What were the differences between them?
- Q6. Can you tell me about what the key elements of your role in assisting patients and families through the rehabilitation journey and how is this approached in a professional capacity?
- Q5. Before we finish the interview, I wonder if there was any other issues that we haven't touched on and that you would like to raise on this topic or your role in caring for someone who has had a stroke?