

Publication and related bias in health services and delivery research (HSDR)

Interview schedule

Preamble: explanation of research aims and outcomes; consent to participate, consent to audio-record, emphasise that we want to explore any issues between research evidence that has been generated and evidence that actually reaches its end users, and there is no presumption about the existence and extent of any bias

Respondent details

Name:

Job-title:

Date of interview:

Section one: existence and prevalence of publication bias

- Please briefly describe your experience of HS&DR

prompt – applying, commissioning, publishing or conducting? Examples of research they have experienced

- Have you encountered or witnessed any issues in the reporting, publication or dissemination of research evidence in the areas of research that you are involved with, or any issues in relation to the accessibility or trustworthiness of research evidence that you use to inform your decisions related to health care?

prompt for examples. And raise types of bias with brief definition if not referred to, but ensure that an open question is used and that the interviewees are not led to acknowledge or talk about any bias that is not of their concern.

Section two: impact of publication bias [to be asked where responses to Section one questioning suggest that publication bias is prevalent]

- What if anything is the impact of these forms of bias in your experience?

prompt for impact on you, others, health care

Section three: strategies for detection, prevention and mitigation

- What strategies are you currently aware of for the detection/prevention/mitigation of publication bias?
- What, if any, further strategies would you suggest particularly in relation to HSDR?

Section four: final questions

- Questions following up themes from previous work-packages: *to be determined*
- Is there anything else you would like to add?