

## **Topic Guide for Decliners –**

### **Exploring perspectives of people who declined to participate in the MIR trial**

#### *Prior to interview*

Remind the individual they can decline to answer a question or withdraw from the interview without giving a reason

Give opportunity to ask questions

Secure consent to audio-record the interview

*Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed about your reasons for declining to take part in the MIR study. Everything you say will be treated as strictly confidential. The information you provide will be useful in helping us understand people's concerns about the study.*

The aim of this interview is to discuss your view of being asked to participate in a study, and about your experiences of depression.

1. Could you start by telling me how you heard about this study? How was the study explained to you? Could you explain what you thought the study was about? Could you explain why you thought the study was not for you?
  - a. Explore the processes of being in a study (randomisation, effect on usual care, time, hassle)
  - b. Explore views on antidepressants (particularly taking two)
2. Could you tell me about being depressed?
3. What sorts of treatments have you had in the past (before you were invited to participate in this study)?
4. How did you feel about taking anti-depressants before being invited to take part in this study? Could I ask if you have ever taken anti-depressants? Do you think they have worked for you? Have you any concerns about taking anti-depressants – if so, explore what?
5. Have you had other treatments for depression (such as 'talking treatments')?
6. Do you have anything else you want to say about the study?

*Thank individual for taking part and reiterate about confidentiality*

## **Topic Guide for patients –**

### **Exploring perspectives of participation in the MIR trial**

The aim of this interview is to examine your experiences of participation in the MIR trial.

1. Could you start by telling me how you came to participate in this study? What did you think was going to happen? How did that compare with what happened?
2. Could you tell me about being depressed?
3. What sorts of treatments have you had in the past (before starting on this research study)?
4. How did you feel about taking anti-depressants before starting on this study?
5. Have you had other treatments for depression (such as ‘talking treatments’)?
6. How did you feel about taking a second tablet for depression? Do you feel you improved with the second tablet?
  - a. If so, how?
  - b. If not, in what way?
7. How was taking the second tablet explained to you?
8. How comfortable do you think your GP was with supporting you when you were taking two tablets for depression?
9. For people who ‘dropped out’: Could you explain why you stopped taking the second tablet? (explore fears, side-effects, pressure from others, confidence in GP, confidence in study etc)