

Before commencing Interview:

Ensure have completed consent form, discussed recording interview and anonymisation of data.

Check participant is happy to start interview and inform you will turn audio recorder on.

Check we have access to Age, Gender, Audit Score

Introduction Questions:

1. Could you tell me what led to you coming into hospital for surgery in the first place?
2. Before coming in to hospital did you expect to be asked about alcohol use? Why?
3. Would you link alcohol use and surgery in anyway?

Experience of the study

1. So, moving on, can you tell me about your experience of being involved in the study?
Prompts:
Could you tell me what motivated you to take part?
Who did you speak to about the study?
How did you feel about being involved?
2. Next I'd like to know about the process of the study so could you start by taking me through step by step what the study involved?
Prompts:
What parts of the process could be improved?
Did you feel comfortable with all parts of the process?
Where there any parts that were unclear?

Acceptability Questions:

1. How did you feel being asked about alcohol use by a nurse?
Prompts:
Were you comfortable talking about your drinking?
2. We used the pre-operative assessment as an opportunity to talk about your alcohol use: how did you feel about that?
3. This is the tool or questionnaire (present AUDIT) that we used to assess your alcohol use which you have completed a few times now, can you tell me what you thought of it?
Prompts:
Were the questions acceptable?
Did you understand them all?
How easy was it to complete?

4. Focusing on the advice you received: how did you feel about that?

Feasibility Questions:

1. How did you find the questions and discussion about alcohol fit in with your care?

Prompts:

Do you think it influenced the rest of your care?

If so was this in a good or bad way?

2. I'm not sure if you know this already but this was a feasibility trial which means we work with a small number of staff and patients to assess if these methods are practical and the findings then inform a larger study. With that in mind there are a few things which didn't happen in this study but would in a larger trial that I'd like to ask you about. Firstly in a full trial we would want to contact participants 6 months after the intervention session to ask them some more questions. How would you have felt about doing that?

Prompts:

Specifically we'd ask you the AUDIT (show AUDIT) questions again, to look at alcohol use and these questions about your health (show EQ-5D). Would you have been happy to complete those?

Also in this study everyone who wanted to take part received information about alcohol use but in a full trial only half the participants would be randomly selected to receive information the other half would just get standard treatment. How would you have felt about that?

Prompts:

Would it have influenced your decision to take part?

Intervention materials:

1. We have the study materials here in front of us, the ones you were given by the nurse, and I wondered what you thought of them?

Prompts:

Is there any way we could improve the materials?

Did you find some of these more useful than others?

Was it too much information, not enough information or about right?

2. You'll notice the term standard drinks is used quite a bit in the materials. Did you understand this?

Prompts:

Sometimes people use the term 'unit' or 'units' rather than 'standard drink' would you prefer that?

3. If I could get you to look at the Brief Advice sheet – we had quite a few lists of benefits from reducing alcohol intake and risks associated with higher alcohol intake did you think we had the most important or most relevant points at the top of each list?

Prompts:

Did you think there was anything missing from these lists?

4. Is there anything we should know about talking to people your age about alcohol use?
5. What about talking to patients about alcohol use?

Closing Questions

1. Is there anything that you think we should have talked about that we haven't?
2. Is there anything you would like to add before we finish?

To Close the Interview:

Turn off the recorder.

Thank the participant for giving up their time to take part and for providing useful insight.

Remind that data will be used to inform future trial and may be used in publications but will be transcribed and anonymised so they are unidentifiable

Ask if they have any questions