

Pre-op BIRDS pilot RCT Patient Interview Topic Guide – Control Condition

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

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

Check we have access to age, gender and AUDIT scores.

Introduction Questions

1. Could you tell me what led to you coming in to hospital for surgery in the first place?
2. Before you came into hospital did you expect to be asked about alcohol use?
Prompts:
Why?
3. Before you became involved in the research would you have linked alcohol to surgery in any way?
4. Would you mind telling me about your alcohol consumption before you took part in the trial?

Change Questions

5. And did you feel that your alcohol use changed at all over the course of the research?
Prompts:
Would you say that's because of the surgery itself or being involved in the research?
6. Were there specific aspects of the trial that motivated you to change your drinking?
7. Do you remember if you set yourself any specific goals in terms of the change you wanted to achieve?

Experience of the Trial

1. Could you tell me what motivated you to take part in the trial?
2. I'd like to know about the process of the trial, could you start by talking me through step by step what the study involved?
Prompts:
Who did you speak to about the trial?
Did you feel comfortable with all parts of the process?
Where there any parts that were unclear?
What parts of the process could be improved?
3. At the beginning of the trial you may remember that you were contacted about the trial and then given time to think about your involvement before coming back to be consented into the trial. Was it important to you to have this time to consider whether or not you wanted to take part?
4. I'm not sure if you remember but at the beginning of the trial you were told you had a 50/50 chance of receiving the information about alcohol use or treatment as usual. How did you feel about that?
Prompts:
Did it have any influence on your decision to take part?

5. How did you feel about being asked some questions while you were in hospital recovering from your surgery?
6. How did you feel about being followed up at six weeks post-surgery and six after joining the trial?

Acceptability Questions

8. How did you feel being asked about alcohol use by a nurse?

Prompts:

Are you generally comfortable talking about your alcohol use?

Are you more/less comfortable talking to a nurse?

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 way or a bad way?

2. How did you find completing the different study questionnaires fit in with your care?

Prompts:

Do you think it influenced the rest of your care?

If so was this in a good way or a bad way?

3. You'll notice the term standard drink is used quite a bit in the materials. Did you understand that term?

Prompts:

Sometimes people use the term units or units instead of standard drink. Would you have preferred that?

1. We used the term risky drinking in the intervention materials, could you tell me what you thought of this term?

Prompts:

What did you think was meant by the term risky drinking?

Sometimes the terms hazardous or harmful drinking are also used. Would you have preferred this?

How would you feel if those terms were used to describe your drinking behaviour?

4. Is there anything you think we should know about talking to people your age about alcohol use?

5. What about talking to patients about alcohol use?
6. We have noticed that a lot more men than women have agreed to take part in the trial. Can you think of any reasons why that might be the case?

Closing Questions

1. Is there anything that you think we should have talked about today 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 research and may be used in publications but will be transcribed and anonymised so that they won't be identifiable.

Ask if they have any questions.

Pre-op BIRDS pilot RCT Patient Interview Topic Guide – Intervention Condition

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

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Introduction Questions

Could you tell me what led to you coming in to hospital for surgery in the first place?

Before you came into hospital did you expect to be asked about alcohol use?

Prompts:

Why?

Before you became involved in the research would you have linked alcohol to surgery in any way?

Would you mind telling me about your alcohol consumption before you took part in the trial?

Change Questions

And did you feel that your alcohol use changed at all over the course of the research?

Prompts:

Would you say that's because of the surgery itself or the information you received?

Were there specific aspects of the information and advice that motivated you to change your drinking?

Do you remember if you set any specific goals in terms of the change you wanted to achieve?

Experience of the Trial

Could you tell me what motivated you to take part in the trial?

I'd like to know about the process of the trial, could you start by talking me through step by step what the study involved?

Prompts:

Who did you speak to about the trial?

Did you feel comfortable with all parts of the process?

Where there any parts that were unclear?

What parts of the process could be improved?

At the beginning of the trial you may remember that you were contacted about the trial and then given time to think about your involvement before coming back to be consented into the trial. Was it important to you to have this time to consider whether or not you wanted to take part?

I'm not sure if you remember but at the beginning of the trial you were told you had a 50/50 chance of receiving the information about alcohol use or treatment as usual. How did you feel about that?

Prompts:

Did it have any influence on your decision to take part?

Were you offered an optional second session of advice about 1-2 weeks before surgery?

Prompts:

Did you take part in this session?

Why?

Did you choose to have the session delivered over the phone or face to face?

Was the session useful?

How did you feel about being asked some questions while you were in hospital recovering from your surgery?

How did you feel about being followed up at six weeks post-surgery and six after joining the trial?

Acceptability Questions

How did you feel being asked about alcohol use by a nurse?

Prompts:

Are you generally comfortable talking about your alcohol use?

Are you more/less comfortable talking to a nurse?

We used the pre-operative assessment as an opportunity to talk to you about your alcohol use. How did you feel about that?

Thinking about the information and advice that you received from the nurse. How did you feel about that?

Prompts:

Was it about the right amount of information?

Did you understand it all?

Feasibility Questions

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 way or a bad way?

How did you find completing the different study questionnaires fit in with your care?

Prompts:

Do you think it influenced the rest of your care?

If so was this in a good way or a bad way?

Intervention Materials

You'll notice the term standard drink is used quite a bit in the materials. Did you understand that term?

Prompts:

Sometimes people use the term units or units instead of standard drink. Would you have preferred that?

We used the term risky drinking in the intervention materials, could you tell me what you thought of this term?

Prompts:

What did you think was meant by the term risky drinking?

Sometimes the terms hazardous or harmful drinking are also used. Would you have preferred this?

How would you feel if those terms were used to describe your drinking behaviour?

Is there anything you think we should know about talking to people your age about alcohol use?

What about talking to patients about alcohol use?

We have noticed that a lot more men than women have agreed to take part in the trial. Can you think of any reasons why that might be the case?

Closing Questions

Is there anything that you think we should have talked about today that we haven't?

Is there anything you would like to add before we finish?

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