**Additional File 1: Topic Guide**

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| **Topic guide for group 1** | | |
| **Domain** | **Question** | |
| Knowledge about medical research | * Are you familiar with the concept of “medical research”? * Are you familiar with the concept of “cohort study”? | |
| Skills | * Have you ever participated in any research project? * Have you ever participated in a cohort study? | |
| Beliefs about capabilities of participation | * If you were to be invited to enroll in a cohort study, do you think you would accept to participate? | |
| Beliefs about consequences of participation | * What would be the advantages and disadvantages of committing to participate in a cohort study? | |
| Motivation to participate | * Walk me through the process that would guide your decision whether to participate or not in a cohort study | |
| Social influences | * Do you know any friends or family who participated in cohort studies? | |
| Characteristics of the research study | * In your opinion, what do you think can be improved in order increase participation in cohort studies? | |
| **Topic guide for group 2** | | |
| **Domain** | | **Question** |
| Knowledge about medical research | | * What do you know now about cohort study that you did not know before? |
| Skills | | * What skills are required to be able to participate in a cohort study? |
| Beliefs about capabilities of participation | | * Why did you decide to enroll in a cohort study? * What did you decide to remain in the cohort study? |
| Beliefs about consequences of participation | | * What are the advantages and disadvantages of committing to participate in a cohort study? |
| Motivation to participate | | * Walk me through the process that guided your decision to participate in a cohort study * Walk me through the process that guided your decision to remain in a cohort study |
| Social influences | | * Do you know any friends or family who participated in cohort studies? |
| Characteristics of the research study | | * In your opinion, what do you think can be improved in order improve enrollment and retention in cohort studies? |
| **Topic guide for group 3** | | |
| **Domain** | | **Question** |
| Skills | | * What skills are needed in order to recruit individuals to participate in a cohort study? |
| Beliefs about capabilities of participation | | * What were the facilitators you encountered while recruiting participants? * What were the barriers you encountered while recruiting participants? * Do you think you have the skills to recruit participants? * Did you have any concerns about how the recruitment process is going? |
| Beliefs about consequences of participation | | * What do you think the impact of participation in cohort studies will have on patients? |
| Motivation to participate | | * Walk me through the process that would guide you while recruiting participants to a cohort study |
| Social influences | | * To what extent you think that having colleagues or friends conducting research would influence your decision to participate in conducting a research (or we can be more specific by suggesting to recruit participants to a cohort study) |
| Characteristics of the research study | | * In your opinion, what do you think can be improved in order improve recruitment to cohort studies? |