Interview Schedule

Welcome and introductions
Aim: make the patient feel at ease and ensure they are clear about what to expect.

- Thank them for giving up their time to speak with you
- Introductions
- Purpose of the research
- Explain how the interview will work
  - Length and format – approximately 45 mins with structured questions and room for discussion
  - How it will be audio recorded
  - Reassure them that you can repeat or clarify questions
  - Reassure them there are no right or wrong answers
  - You can take a break or stop at any time
- Allow for any questions

Background questions
Aim: establish the events leading up to the decision to have a joint replacement.

- Tell me about the problems you have had with your shoulder that’ve led you to consider a joint replacement
- Have the problems with your shoulder impacted your life? If so, how?
- Can you tell me about your current symptoms and function?
- How have these symptoms been managed by your clinical team up until now?
- Do you feel patients in your situation are well catered for? If participants answer “no”, or are unclear, explore how they feel this could be improved
- What do you expect from the shoulder replacement? (N.B. the response will be used to guide the questions in the following section)
Influences on decision making

Aim: explore the people and resources that have influenced the participant’s decision making.

- Tell me about how you made the decision to have a shoulder replacement.
- What information is most important to you when considering whether to have a shoulder replacement? (Prompt: this could include information about the surgery, risks of surgery, the expected recovery and postoperative function or the chance of needing a repeat operation). The direction of the initial discussion on this topic will be guided by the patient’s expectations regarding surgery.

   Ensure the following topics are covered:
   1. Daily tasks
   2. Range of motion
   3. Pain relief
   4. Speed of recovery of function, and level achieved
   5. Need for a revision shoulder replacement or surgery of any kind
   6. Risk of complications in hospital incl. infections, heat attacks or strokes
   7. Length of stay in hospital

- Have you discussed your shoulder and your decisions about treatment with people other than your surgeon? Have they influenced your decision making?
- Have you felt that you have needed to get any additional advice/information about your shoulder and treatment from people/places other than your surgeon/clinical team?
- Have you sought out alternative sources of information such as websites or patient information leaflets?
- What has been your preferred way to receive information from healthcare staff?
- Are there any ways in which we could improve the way you’re given information or the nature of the content?

Closing

Aim: explore any remaining thoughts, thank participants.

- What pieces of advice would you give to someone else in a position that was similar to yours?
- Is there any other information you would like to share?

Explain the next steps and highlight the value of the information they’ve provided.

Answer any final questions and encourage them to contact the team should there be any further queries.

Thank them for their time.