

TOPIC GUIDE

Participant focus group meeting (post study)

11.45-11:55 Welcome from facilitators (10 minutes)

- Debi, Sathon, Clare
- Core team members working on a study to test the effect of medication organisers
- Thank you coming along today
- Appreciate taking the time to share your thoughts and opinions

There are two main aims of this group meeting:

1. Find out about your experiences taking part on this study
2. Find out what you think about all aspects of the study as a participant
What worked well, what didn't work so well

This information will be used in the design of larger study that may take place in the future

- There are no right or wrong answers – we are interested your thoughts and experiences
- It is important that everyone has a chance to speak and be heard.
- There are just a two ground rules for the focus group
 - Firstly, the discussion will be recorded, so please allow each person to speak without interruption just so that when we come to write this up we can actually tell who is talking.
 - The information that we write up will be completely anonymous so it will say group member 1, 2 or 3 for example – there will be no names.
 - The second rule is that anything you learn about someone else in this discussion must be kept completely confidential so you cannot repeat anything that you hear during this discussion outside of this room.
- Is that OK?
- Ok to start?

11.55-12.10 Introductions (15 minutes)

- For the purposes of the recording, please introduce yourself:
 - What you would like to be called
 - What group you were randomised into – pill box or usual packaging and weekly or monthly supply
- Why did you agree to participate in this project?
- If you had this time over would you do it again?
- Any thoughts about this project?
 - Any good aspects; what worked effectively
 - Not good or not working

12.10-12.25 Experiences of Stage 1 (15 minutes)

- This stage involved the mailing out of a letter from your doctor with an information leaflet and screening questionnaire.
 - Any comments about this?
- Prompts: Was the information clear in the leaflet?
Was this the right amount of information?
Did you understand at this stage what was involved in the study?
Did you receive a reminder pack?

12.25-12.40 Stage 2 (15 minutes)

- This stage was looking at how you took your pills. We did an initial pill count and then came back in three weeks to do a follow up count. Extra pills were sealed up in a plastic bag. We also left you a questionnaire asking about Health and Quality of Life to complete and return to us.
 - How did you find this stage of the study?
 - Prompts: Was this stage clear to you?
How did you feel about your spare medicines being sealed up?
 - What was the visit like?
 - How did you feel about the questionnaire?
 - Was there anything we could have done differently?

12.40-13.10 Stage 3 (30 minutes)

- When we came for the second visit, we counted your tablets and told you that your pill count was different from what we expected.
 - How did you feel about this?
- You were invited to take part in the next stage of the study where you were randomised into one of four groups: Pill box or usual packaging, weekly or monthly supply.
 - What did you feel about this?
 - Any comments about frequency of supply you got: Monthly/Weekly?
 - Any comments about the type of pill box you received: Nomad, Venalink?
- You completed three small tasks; eyesight test, memory test and hand dexterity test.
 - What did you think about these tests?
- We left you two questionnaires to complete and return to us at the end of the trial. We also left another one for the person who cares for you.
 - Any thoughts about this stage?
- At the end of the two-month trial, you could cut open the bag containing your spare medicines and return to your usual way of taking tablets.
 - Was it clear to you what was expected at this stage?
- Did you have any difficulties in taking your medicine as prescribed during the study for any reason?
- More generally, are there any thoughts or comments related to the end of the study?

13.05-13.10 Summary and close (5 minutes)

- Is there anything else that you would like to add?
- Would you consider taking part in any further study?
- Thank you for your participation.
- If you would like a copy of the report, let Sathon know and we will send you a summary.