

INCENTIVE: improving the organisation and delivery of dental health care to patients.

Qualitative Interview Topic Guide & Schedule for lay people		
Settling in	Introduce yourself, have something light to say	
	Ask about them & things they are interested in (small talk). Who are they?	
	People often have a good story to tell about the dentist! – Tell me about your	
	experiences of the dentist/thoughts of the dentist	
	How do they come to be taking part in project?	
Predisposing	Explore what their experience of going to the dentist has been in the past.	
Factors	Had they, or anyone else they knew, been less or more inclined to go to the dentist?	
	What do they think about going to the dentist nowadays?	
	Things that stop/help you get dental care?	
	Explore issues such as costs and affordability.	
	 How do you feel about paying for dentistrty? 	
	 Is having an NHS dentist important? 	
	Has the practice they are attending done anything to encourage awareness of oral	
	health?	
	• Time ?	
Enabling	Did they notice anything different about their practices? i.e. was it different to other	
Resources	practices or changes in these practices?	
	Had anyone they knew taken part in advising their practice? - observations on user forum.	
	Did it make a difference? What did they like? What would they do differently?	
	Had there been any change in ease of getting appointments?	
	Did they know people who had joined the practice or been refused?	
	Had the practice any different ways of working?	
	Did feel of practices change in other ways?	
	 Did practices do anything differently? Explore any changes regarding preventing problems –either by advising the patient i.e. exploring how to improve their oral health 	
	Skill-mix	

	Did they become aware of different team members being present?
	How did it affect them? Did they like/dislike?
	Right volume, blend?
	Any advantages or disadvantages (more time, extra visits, a new face)
	Have there have any differences in east?
	Have there been any differences in cost?
	Cap off with open question about practice overall (eg quality – access, relevance, cost,
	effectiveness, efficiency, fairness)
Need	Some practices have started advising patients about their risk of developing problems and
	have changed their treatments because of this.
	Have you noticed the dental team doing this? (within this you might explore if they
	are aware of the traffic light system, what do patients feel about this?)
	O Do you change your behaviour?
	How did (would) it make you feel?
	Did it affect your treatment in anyway? Did you have different treatments or more
	or less appointments?
	How did you feel about that? Did it make you act differently?
	Did you do anything to try to get into a different category?
	Do you think the dental team should do this type of thing?
	 Do you think the team focussed on the right things?
	Did the team communicate these things well?
Oral Health	Have they changed the way they look after their mouths?
Behaviours	Oral hygiene, diet, tobacco use, going to the dentist?
Denaviours	Had they thought about these things?
	Did the advice of the dental team prompt any of these changes? Was it related to RAG rating?
	r r r g

	Interview Topic Guide & Schedule for commissioners
Settling in	 Introduce yourself, have something light to say Ask about them & things they are interested in (small talk). Who are they? People often have a good story to tell about the dentist! How do they come to be taking part in project?
Predisposing	How would they describe the people in the area served by the practice? Has the practice had any effect on those people? If so what and how? Had the practice done anything to change awareness of oral health?

Has the practice has changed the way it is working?
Had there been any lay involvement? Did it make a difference? What would they do
lifferently?
Had there been any changes in access to the practice? Increases/decreases? Hard
neasures? Other indicators? Types of people?
What were the consequences of the new ways of working? Advantages/
lisadvantages? Cost implications, efficiency, value for money
How were they quality assuring the practice? Which quality indicators? Other
ndicators? Patient complaints? Which of them worked?
Other administrative /commissioning roles
Skill-mix
• Right volume, blend?
 Any advantages or disadvantages (efficiency, cost, assessment)
Had there been any differences in cost?
Cap off with open question about practice overall (eg quality – access, relevance, cost,
effectiveness, efficiency, fairness)
Had there been any feedback on the RAG rating? Differences it made? Difficulities
Had the RAG rating influenced other outcomes from their perpective?
Had there been any indication that the local people or patients were acting differently
More or less attendance, more care seeking?
Any other indicators
Are they aware of any outcomes arising from care at the practice? -health, patient
atisfaction, complaints, outputs, efficiency
Jnanticipated outcomes – positive and negative

Interview Topic Guide & Schedule for Dental Teams	
Settling in	 Introduce yourself, have something light to say Ask about them & things they are interested in (small talk). Who are they?
	Ask about them & things they are interested in (small talk). Who are they?

	 How did they come to be a dentist/nurse/ therapist etc How do they come to be taking part in project?
Predisposing	How would they describe the people in the area served by the practice? Has the practice had any effect on those people? If so what and how?
	Had the practice done anything to change awareness of oral health? How successful had it been? Was it a good idea?
Enabling	Does the practice try to engage patients to influence the way the practice worked? How? How effective is this? Does it have the intended (or any unintended!) consequences? Is it satisfactory?
	How do the practice and the commissioners assure quality in the practice? Which indicators does it use? Do the indicators influence the way the practice works? (eg doing things they are paid for, not doing what not paid for, or in any other ways). Are the indicators appropriate?
	Does the practice have protocols for prevention? Who does this work? Does it work? Could the systems be improved?
	How is payment working for you? Are you happy with this?
	Is it easier for patients to get appointments nowadays? New patients or existing? Does the practice seem more patients? Are there different types of patients nowadays (follow up with non-attenders, high risk and demographic groups). How do patients get into the system? Has that changed?
	Has the type or amount of work done by the practice changed? If so, is it doing more or less appropriate work?
	Has the team been reconfigured? Is the configuration appropriate? What are the advantages and disadvantages of the configuration? How would they change it? Is the amount of delegation in the practice about right? Have there been benefits to patients or the practice in terms of efficiency or release of time. Have the patients commented?
	Do you think the service you are providing is better or worse value for money for patients and the NHS?
	How is it better than other models? Is it better?

Need	How do they assess patient need in the practice? Do they communicate this to the
	patients? Did they have a formal system for doing this? Do judgements about patients'
	health risk influence treatment?
	How do they feel discussing this with the patient? Do patients mind if they cannot have
	specific treatment because of their levels of risk? Have they changed a risk category for a
	patient – either immediately or after a period of time?
Behaviours	Does the way that the practice works help patients look after themselves? How? What
	things to do they try to influence?
	How effective is this? How do they assess all this?
	from effective is this: from do they assess an this:
Outcomes	How do they think of oral health?
	Do they think the way the practice works maximises health outcomes for patients?
	How do they assess this? Hard measures or other indicators? Are the measures they use
	appropriate? Do the measures they use tally with other indicators
	appropriate to the meaning may may may make a manager
	Are they aware of any outcomes arising from care at the practice? -health, patient
	satisfaction, complaints, outputs, efficiency
	Unanticipated outcomes – positive and negative