

## **Additional file 1**

### **Topic guide for interviews with decision aid stakeholders.**

#### **Discussion and ensure signing of consent form**

- Check the participant has read the participant information leaflet and understands what the interview entails;
- Ask if there are any questions;
- Ensure they are aware that confidentiality will be ensured at all times and their anonymity should direct quotes be used in publication;
- Request verbal consent and completion and return of paper copy of consent form in post.

#### **Recording to commence.**

- Present background to the study

#### **Please tell me about your experience of clinical trials.**

##### *Patients*

- How was the trial introduced to you?
- Did you feel you understood what was expected of you as a participant?

##### *Research nurses, trial managers and principal investigators*

- Can you tell me about where you work?
- What is your role in the clinical trials that you run ?
  - How long have you worked in clinical trials?
  - Is it an NHS or University setting?
- What kind of trials do you work on? How are they mainly funded?
- Do the trials that you run have a focus? E.g. cancer trials, paediatric trials...
- Can you tell me a little bit about who does the recruiting in your trials?

##### *Ethics committee chairs*

- What is your role at the ethics committee?
  - How long have you been the chair of this REC?
  - Does your REC focus on any particular types of research studies?

**Please can you tell me about your views on existing patient information leaflets for clinical trials.**

*Patients not asked this question.*

*Research nurses, trial managers and principal investigators.*

- Can you tell me a little bit about how you develop the patient information leaflets you currently use in your trials.
  - For example do you have a skeleton template that you use or do you have team discussions, who do you involve?
- How effective do you think existing patient information leaflets are at helping patients make a decision about trial participation?
- Do you think they facilitate discussion between the recruiter and the participant? Why or why not?

*Ethics committee chairs*

- How effective do you think existing patient information leaflets are at helping patients make a decision about trial participation? Are they fit for purpose? Why or why not?
- And do you think they facilitate discussion between the recruiter and the participant? Why or why not?
- What do you think about the NRES guidance on information leaflets and consent forms?
- Do you think researchers follow this when developing information leaflets? Why or why not?
- How does your REC review information leaflets? E.g. do you use a template? How often do they come up in the discussion?

***Views about the prototype trial decision aids***

**Please can you tell me a little bit about what you think about using these tools to help people make a decision about trial participation?**

- In general, what were your impressions of these tools?

- How do you think they compare to existing patient information leaflets?  
(patients not asked this probe)

**Please can you tell me what you thought were the most useful components of the tool?**

- Why?

**And can you tell me if you felt any aspects of the tool weren't helpful?**

- Why?

**What do you think about the sections on possible benefits and disadvantages of taking part and NOT taking part?**

- Do you think this will influence decision making? Why or why not?

**Can you tell me what you thought about the section covering experiences of others?**

- Do you think this will influence decision making? Why or why not?

**What do you think about the risk information that is presented?**

- Do you think this will influence decision making? Why or why not?
- Do you have a preference? Why?
- More generally, do you think participants have trouble understanding risk information?
- Do you think this influences their decision to participate?

**Can you tell me what you think about the worksheets at end?**

- What do you think the best way to utilise these would be?
- Again, do you think they would support potential participant's decision making?  
Why or why not?

**Can you tell me what you thought about the length of the tool?**

- If too much, how do you think we can reduce the amount of information presented?

**When thinking about using these tools within recruitment consultations, how do you think they should be delivered?**

- Why?

**What do you think the objective of a trial participation decision aid should be?**

- For example, there could be a variety of outcome researchers may want these tools to influence. What do you think is most important? Why?

**Thinking about current practice, do you think the decision support tools would better support potential participants when faced with a decision about trial participation?**

- Think specifically about the decision to participate and the decision to continue to participate.

**Thank the participant for their contribution and ask whether they have any additional questions.**

- Complete demographic data questions;
- Ask if wish to receive a summary of the results.