

Appendix 1: Interview with medical interns – list of possible questions

They will be informed it will involve questions on situations that have occurred to them in their first year of practice

Demographics

Name and age

Posts in first year of practice

Plans for next year

Initial thoughts (rapport building)

How have you found your first year?

What it what you expected?

What has surprised you?

What have you found difficult?

Do they feel you were adequately prepared?

What could have possibly prepared you better?

Who or what could have helped you more?

Further thoughts

Have you been well supported in your first year?

Does your educational learning post-university differ from pre-university?

Have you had any role-models in this first year?

Have they differed from university role-models?

What have you learned from this year?

Are there any mistakes you feel you have made this year?

ODC and medication error questions (Need reflective and clinical reasoning questions)

Have you been involved with a patient who has come to harm as a result of a medication error?

Did you personally make the medication error?

Have you made any medication errors?

Did they lead to patient harm?

How did you feel about that?

Did your reaction surprise you?

Did you ever think this would happen to you?
Why do think it happened?
Were you aware at the time it could have been an error?
If so, why did you think you did not prevent it happening?
What ultimately made you decide to carry on with the prescription?
Did anybody query the prescription?
What was your reply?
Should you have prevented it happening?
Could you have prevented it happening?
Did you think about asking for senior help?
If so, what was the reply?
If not, why not?
What did you learn from the error?
Is there anything you would do differently next time?
Did you speak to the family?
What did you tell them?
How did you find that conversation?
Did you say sorry for what had happened?
How did it feel, saying sorry?
Did you admit it was a mistake?
If not, why did you not state it was a mistake?
How did the family react?
How did you react to their reaction?
What did you physiologically feel during the conversation?
How did you interpret that?
Did you find it difficult?
What did you draw on to help you through this difficult conversation?
Why do think you drew on these influences?
Did they help?
What conscious decisions / acts did you make?

Discussion about learning styles

Did you feel supported / isolated?
What did you learn from the conversation?

What do you think you did well in the conversation?
Is there anything you would do different next time?
What do you think of what happened with the benefit of hindsight and time?
What advice would you have for other interns in this situation?
Has this changed your practice?

Closing thoughts (defuse and depart)

So where do you think your career is heading from here?
What are you looking forward to?
What are you not looking forward to?
Has your attitude towards medicine changed in this year?
Is there anything else you would like to discuss?
Is there anything you would like to ask me about this interview?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME