Supplementary Table 3. Examples of participants' open-ended responses regarding 'words or feelings' (question 1) across labels (top 10 codes only)

| Subacromial impingement syndrome | Rotator cuff tear | Bursitis | Rotator-cuff-related shoulder pain | Shoulder sprain | Episode of shoulder pain |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| Pain experience | | | | | |
| "Unbearable pain." [P130, Female, age 40] "I think that it is pain and very uncomfortable." [P121, Male, age 45] | "Very uncomfortable to have." [P329, Female, age 65] "Painful, agony." [P331, Male, age 49] | "Pain in the shoulder area." <i>[P520, Male, age 79]</i> "Pain, swelling, redness." <i>[P559, Female, age 49]</i> | "Pain & discomfort." [P797, Male, age 69] "Pain that incurs when moved." [P682, Female, age 38] | "Tingling, hot sensation, pain on lifting arm up." <i>[P1044, Female, age 58]</i> "Pain in shoulder hurting bad." <i>[P869, Male, age 64]</i> | "Aching pain throbbing." [P1120, Male, age 34] "Very, very sharp pains." [P1085, Female, age 32] |
| Tissue damage or dysf | unction | | | | |
| "Bones trapping tendons/muscles." <i>[P188, Female, age 28]</i> "Something pressing in the shoulder. Seizing and/or swelling." <i>[P208, Male, age 38]</i> | "Shoulder tear that hurts real bad." [P236, Female, age 60] "I have tendon damage." [P341, Male, age 48] | "Fluid sac that is maybe torn or ruptured." <i>[P577, Female, age 56]</i> "Inflammation in the shoulder." <i>[P533, Male, age 45]</i> | "An injury to muscles." <i>[P821, Female, age 63]</i> "Sounds like it is in the area of the shoulder joint. Makes me think there is inflammation or perhaps a pinched nerve." | "A muscle sprain or pinched nerve." [P922, Male, age 65] "You didn't break anything you just sprained the ligaments or muscles." [P1080, Female, age 69] | "I think if things like a trapped nerve or general injury to the area." <i>[P1259, Female, age 41]</i> "Tendon, muscle and all this other pain." <i>[P1129, Male, age 26]</i> |

| | | | [P837, Male, age 61] | | |
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| Activity restriction | | | | | |
| "Pain, being uncomfortable, not being able to do the things you normally do." <i>[P200, Female, age 63]</i> "Disability, not being able to work or do activities." <i>[P106, Male, age 21]</i> | "I'm useless on one side." [P243, Male, age 58] "It's painful and hard to function day to day." [P267, Female, age 39] | "Pain and trouble with movement." <i>[P593, Male, age 42]</i> "Inflammation, pain, decrease range of motion." <i>[P569, Female, age 30]</i> | "Something painful they may limit the ability to move your arm in the way you are accustomed to doing things." <i>[P792, Female, age 63]</i> "Annoying restriction to movement." <i>[P866, Male, age 66]</i> | "Limited movement." [P960, Female, age 67] "Take more care in the things I do." [P1054, Male, age 60] | "Affects my everyday actions" <i>[P1189, Male, age 68]</i> "Hard to do normal things" <i>[P1294, Female, age 68]</i> |
| Psychological distress | | | | | |
| "Pain, stress, anxious." <i>[P25, Male, age 64]</i> "Pinched nerve, sounds scary." <i>[P145, Female, age 45]</i> | "Bad feeling, is very not cool." <i>[P238, Male, age 38]</i> "The term rotator cuff tear sounds scary." <i>[P256, Female, age 29]</i> | "A little scared, because if you don't get it fixed right away, it'll cause stiff shoulder disease." [P564, Male, age 34] "It sounds quite scary." | "Scared - what if I lose use of my shoulder?" <i>[P741, Female, age 37]</i> "Makes me worried." <i>[P701, Male, age 38]</i> | "That I am getting weaker. To sprain my shoulder whilst doing a simple task worries me a little." <i>[P1050, Female, age 62]</i> "Scarred, worried, confused." <i>[P985, Male, age 19]</i> | "That my body might possibly be deteriorating, perhaps seriously. I would be quite concerned. Anxious, worried." [P1218, Male, age 47] "Anxious, teary, worried, troubled" |

| | | [P445, Female, age 46] | | | [P1088, Female, age 62] |
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| Good prognosis | | | | | |
| "Pain which will | "It just needs time to | "Inflammation. Pain | "Great now but with | "Strain which eventually will | "Temporary. Not very |
| subside with time. Healing over time if | repair itself." | eventual recovery." | the time it cures and no need of doing | heal itself." | serious. Annoying." |
| care taken." | [P407, Female, age 64] | [P532, Female, age 57] | anything let time show magic." | [P1040, Male, age 79] | [P1271, Female, age 36] |
| [P134, Male, age 69] | | "Temporary shoulder | | "Temporary pain from | "Short term pain" |
| "Temporary pain in | but I am sure this can be recovered during | pain that will just go away." | [P730, Male, age 33] | something strenuous I tried to do." | [P1273, Male, age 47] |
| the shoulder blade." | reasonable period of time." | [P602, Male, age 47] | "Not serious, will heal itself, relax." | [P1067, Female, age 69] | |
| [P166, Female, age 28] | [P395, Male, age 45] | | [P745, Female, age 65] | | |
| | [F 395, Male, age 45] | | [F / 45, F emale, age 65] | | |
| Uncertainty | | | | | |
| "What the hell is that? | "I am not sure actually | "No idea, something | "It sounds | "Scarred, worried, confused." | "Episode of shoulder pain |
| Can't they speak in simple terms?" | about this except that fact that it is related to | common." | complicated." | [P985, Male, age 19] | is too vague of a term. When I hear it, I want |
| simple terms: | shoulder." | [P565, Male, age 47] | [P858, Female, age 71] | | more definitive answers |
| [P129, Male, age 61] | | "Do not know what it | "Not sure what to do | "Honestly it first time I see | and diagnostic." |
| "Complicated, serious, | [P272, Female, age 34] | is." | at all very sorry but I | this world and really I can't guess what it is but it still | [P1144, Male, age 25] |
| nervous." | "Pain, uncertainty." | | will go to the | doesn't mean a serious issue." | |
| [P114, Female, age 32] | [P378, Male, age 68] | [P627, Female, age 40] | therapy." | [P955, Female, age 41] | "Does not give a good |
| [1 114, 1 [°] emute, uge 52] | | | [P662, Male, age 49] | [1 755, 1 ⁻ emaie, uge 41] | cause, not a very good name." |

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| | | | | | [P1210, Female, age 36] |
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| <u></u> | | | | | |
| Minor issue | | | | | |
| "The injury is probably just due to overextending my arm, it is not too serious and should get better." <i>[P180, Female, age 38]</i> | "Shoulder pain in the short-term mild discomfort." <i>[P405, Male, age 51]</i> "This is not a serious medical condition. I will recover reasonably | "Words and feelings that come to mind is not to worry." <i>[P640, Female, age 24]</i> "Not as bad as it could have been." | "Simple pain, no injury." [P775, Male, age 21] "Painful but not serious." [P820, Female, age 36] | "That it is nothing too serious, just needs rest and gentle exercise." <i>[P1073, Male, age 75]</i> "Temporary, not serious, will improve with time." | "A minor injury with some discomfort <i>[P1231, Male, age 61]</i> "Will not stay long. Will cures by itself and no need for medicine" |
| "Not sure maybe a slight disorder." [P113, Female, age 20] | soon." [P399, Female, age, 41] | [P498, Male, age 44] | | [P1051, Female, age 67] | [P1249, Female, age, 47] |
| Treatment/investigatio | n | | <u> </u> | | |
| "It is pretty serious I may need surgery." <i>[P129, Male, age 61]</i> "It sounds like a serious condition and I thought that surgery is require to fix it." <i>[P51, Female, age 31]</i> | "Pain, off work, surgery." [P420, Male, age 36] "Shoulder, muscle, surgery, orthopaedics, throwing." [P308, Female, age 23] | "Infection or inflammation that can be treated." [P635, Female, age 62] "A little scared, because if you don't get it fixed right away, it'll cause stiff shoulder disease." | "Need to attend very quickly." <i>[P774, Male, age 38]</i> "Long term discomfort, need for exercise regime." <i>[P790, Female, age 76]</i> | "Pain, doctors, sling, X-rays, medication." <i>[P910, Female, age 44]</i> "Damn, now I have to go through physical therapy." <i>[P890, Male, age 21]</i> | "If it persisted for some time, I would visit a doctor and go from there." <i>[P1296, Male, age 66]</i> "It makes me realise that my health professional should point me in the right direction to enable me to help myself." |
| | | [P564, Male, age 34] | | | [P1209, Female, age 71] |

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| Unhappy/frustration | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| "Fear, anxious, angry, tired." <i>[P30, Male, age 35]</i> "Sad, living in pain isn't fun." | "Disgusting pain, unhappy, sad, mad." <i>[P300, Male, age 23]</i> "Causing me to be unhappy when I cannot reach. Causing me to be unhappy when I cannot | "Fear, hurt, angry." [P446, Male, age 23] "Pain, stress, anger." [P452, Female, 42] | "Frustrated, annoyed, anxious, nervous." <i>[P663, Male, age 20]</i> "Muscular, hurts more when I try and sleep, frustrating, can't do | "Frustrated, tired." [P966, Female, 47] "Limitations, pain, frustration." [P899, Male, age 23] | "Painful, tiredness, unhappy" <i>[P1305, Female, age 56]</i> "Pissed off anxious and angry" <i>[P1133, Male, age 33]</i> |
| [P87, Female, age 47] Serious issue | <i>[P351, Female, age 71]</i> | | my normal activities." [P796, Female, age 53] | | [1 1155, Mate, age 55] |
| "It sounds scary and | "Serious condition." | "Serious condition, | "Serious, long term | "It's really bad because the | "That my body might |
| serious." | | something has burst, | injury." | stress is here, you think like | possibly be deteriorating, |
| [P95, Female, age 54] | [P301, Female, age 65] | worried." | [P826, Female, age 38] | you got something anywhere else that's more serious." | perhaps seriously." |
| [F95, Female, age 54] | "It sounds very serious." | [P620, Female, age 33] | [F 820, F emaie, age 58] | else that's more serious. | [P1218, Male, age 47] |
| "Sounds like very | 5 | [,,, | | [P875, Male, age 25] | [,, |
| serious injury." [P58, Male, age 39] | [P268, Male, age 25] | "Inflamed area within the body that could | "Sounds bad and sounds like it would hurt a lot and might | "It could be cancer." | "Hurt, shoulder, arm, cancer" |
| [,,30, 0,] | | harm the human body." [P506, Male, age 49] | need surgery to fix." [P695, Male, age 45] | [P1066, Female, age 46] | [P1213, Prefer not to say gender, age 26] |

P: participant.