

Supplementary File 1. Interview topic schedule

Amended COVID items in italics

Background

- Tell me a bit about you:
 - age
 - education
 - employment history
 - daily activities
 - general health

- *What impact has coronavirus had on your everyday life?*

Background to FIT

- What was your overall experience of the problem, getting tested and receiving your test result?

- Tell me more about the symptoms you experienced
 - Abdominal discomfort
 - Change in bowel habit (general, diarrhoea, constipation)
 - Bleeding
 - Indigestion / heartburn
 - Bloating
 - Fatigue
 - Unexplained weight loss
 - Loss of appetite.

- How long had you experienced symptoms?
 - *Note: Try and get dates to be able to work out how this relates to COVID*

- Did you try any self-management?
 - *If yes, do you think coronavirus affected how you self-managed?*

- When did you first seek help for symptoms?
 - *Do you think coronavirus had any impact on when and where you sought help?*
 - *Friends and family*
 - *Other sources of information (e.g. internet)*
 - *Other medical professional (e.g. pharmacist)*
 - *Do you think coronavirus has changed the way you seek help for medical problems?*
 - *Changing thresholds for going to the doctors*
 - *Ongoing fear of going out*
 - *Change in the way that clinical appointments happen*

- Did you take any prescription medication for symptoms?
 - How long taking
 - Any changes to medication and/or dose
 - How medication has helped
 - Any problems?
 - *Do you think coronavirus led to any problems getting medication?*

Experience of GP consultation where the FIT-poo test was first suggested

- How they were feeling before GP appointment (about symptoms, urgency, what did they expect to happen)?

- *Did coronavirus have any impact on how you interacted with your GP?*
 - *Did you have a face to face appointment?*
 - *Were there any remote part to the consultation?*
 - *Was this what you were expecting?*
- *What was it like to going to the GP practice during coronavirus?*
 - *How did this make you feel?*
 - *How do you feel about attending any future appointments with your GP?*
- *How did you feel when the GP suggested having a FIT-poo test?*
 - *How was the FIT-poo test introduced and explained?.*
 - *Who explained this (GP, nurse, admin?).*
 - *What did you think about the information you received (format and content).*
- *How did you feel following the GP consultation but before doing the test (physically and emotionally)?*
- *How long did you wait between the GP visit and doing the FIT-poo test at home?*
 - *What factors influenced this (busy/scared/anxious/collecting additional information?).*
 - *Did you discuss doing the FIT-poo test with anyone (family member, friend, GP, nurse)*
 - *What was your experience of discussion?*
 - *Did you look up or request any further information (including internet).*
 - *Any concerns about taking the test?*
- *Do you have any ideas about why people might decide against taking the test (why others might be put off)?*
- *What did you think the doctor was looking for?*
 - *Did you or they make any links between colorectal cancer and your these symptoms?*

Experience of doing the FIT-poo test

- *How did you feel about doing the test?*
 - *Physically*
 - *Emotionally*
 - *Did you manage first time you tried? If not, why not?*
- *How did you feel following the test?*
 - *Explore for immediately after test*
 - *Later that day*
 - *Following day*
 - *Over following week.*
- *Do you think the coronavirus made you more/less concerned about the test?*

Experience of receiving the result of the FIT-poo test

- *What was it like waiting for result?*
 - *Do you think coronavirus affected this?*
 - *For those who have not yet had a result – why do they think this might be?*
 - *How did you receive the test result (text message, letter, phone call, another consultation)*
 - *Do you think coronavirus has had any impact on the timeliness/delivery of results?*
- *What was it like being given a POSITIVE / NEGATIVE / EQUIVOCAL result?*
- *Do you know what will happen next?*
 - *Are there any concerns about future care because of coronavirus?*

- Do you think your experience has influenced any of your friends or family members about seeking/receiving care now and in the future?

Improvements to the FIT-poo test experience

- What went well before, during and after doing the FIT-poo test?
 - Any suggestions for changes that would improve FIT-poo test
 - Information provided
 - Procedure
 - Staff interpersonal skills
 - Experience of taking the FIT-poo test.
- *What impact, if any, did coronavirus have on your testing experience?*
 - *Has this changed their view of future care and what this might look like post-covid?*
- Would you take test again?
- Would you recommend test to someone else?
 - How would you explain test to someone else?

Ask whether anything else participant would like to mention / discuss