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 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 / EQIVOCAL 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