

## Appendix 1. Topic guide/questions

The guides were amended before each phase to allow the exploration of emerging concepts in more detail in subsequent interviews. Patients and doctors were asked about:

- The process of informed consent, e.g. *what is your experience of taking consent from patients for angioplasty treatment/ when and how were you given information about the procedure?*
- Patient decision-making. e.g. *how do you think patients make the decision to have treatment? / when and how did you make the decision to have the treatment?*
- The meaning of informed consent, e.g. *what does informed consent mean to you?*
- Risk, e.g. *how did the doctor explain the risks of the procedure? / do you think patients want to know the risks of the procedure?.*

## Appendix 2: Supplementary information about data analysis

### Phases of data analysis

#### 1) Initial coding

This phase of data analysis took place alongside data collection to enable the generation of codes to inform the topic guide and sampling. Transcripts were grouped into cases (informed consent discussion plus patient and doctor interview) and a line-by-line analysis of each transcript conducted to generate initial concepts. The interview data was compared with the informed consent discussion for each case, to situate the participants' perceptions in context.

#### 2) Axial coding

The next stage was to link codes to consequences, patterns of interaction and causes to produce categories and codes, and develop a coding framework. The following questions were asked of the data in each case to strengthen the categories and develop a coding framework: *How does the informed consent occur? When and how is the decision to have treatment made? How do the participants influence the discussion? How do contextual factors influence the informed consent discussion?*

#### 3) Developing the theory

Once all four phases of open and axial initial coding were completed the coding framework was applied to all case studies to identify potential omissions and to develop the explanatory theory.

Charmaz K. Constructing Grounded Theory: A Practical Guide Through Qualitative Analysis. London: SAGE, 2006.

Glaser BG, Strauss A L. The discovery of grounded theory: Strategies for qualitative research. Chicago: Aldine Pub. Co, 1967.

## **Rigour**

- Several approaches supported the trustworthiness of the study:
- Data were collected and analysed sequentially from participants at two different centres.
- Triangulation of data from the live consent discussions and in-depth interviews from patients and cardiologists allowed the comparison of participants' perceptions of informed consent with real-life practice.
- Memo writing supported reflection and attention to the inductive development of theory.
- A series of meetings with NHS service users, cardiologists and academics supported frequent debriefing for the experienced researcher, who conducted all interviews, and the development of the coding framework, clarification of codes, categories and themes.
- Service users advised on the conduct of the research and their expertise and experience contributed to the development of the coding framework.