Interview Questions

First, we will begin the interview with some basic questions.

1. How do you identify yourself? Do you identify yourself as a native american or a different race?
2. Do you know the degree of your Native American Ancestry (full, one half, one quarter, <than a quarter)?
3. Do you live on or near a reservation?
4. When was your last dialysis session? (only applies if they are on dialysis)

Next, I am going to ask you questions about your kidney disease experience. (Warm-up questions)

1. Perhaps we could begin by talking about how your kidney disease was first discovered?
2. When did you learn about dialysis or transplant as a treatment for your kidney disease?
3. Is this your first kidney transplant evaluation process?
4. Are you on dialysis? When did you start?
5. Who referred you to get a kidney transplant evaluation?
6. Do you know anyone who has had a kidney transplant before? How did they do? How did that affect your decision to get an evaluation to see if you can get a kidney transplant? Did that affect how soon you can get an evaluation?

Focused questions:

1. Tell me about why you decided to go to your transplant evaluation visits at Mayo.
   a. Did you discuss this with your family and/or friends? How did they feel about your decision?
   b. Did you have any concerns about cost? Was money a concern for you about traveling for your evaluation?
   c. Do you describe yourself as a religious person? What religion do you follow? Did your religious beliefs help you decide to come for an evaluation?
   d. Do you feel that your Native American culture affected whether you should get a kidney transplant evaluation or not?

2. Tell me more about how you feel about the idea of getting someone else’s kidney in your body to treat your kidney disease?
   a. What are some things that help you decide on whether to get a kidney transplant or not? Which of those things are the most important to you?
      i. Are these things relating to physical symptoms and how you feel because of your kidney disease and dialysis?
      ii. Do these things relate to how dialysis and kidney disease affect your social life?
iii. Do these things relate to how dialysis and kidney disease affect you financially?
iv. How will a kidney transplant affect you financially?
v. Do these things relate to how you feel about yourself now or how you want to feel after you get a kidney transplant?
   a. What are some issues that you have currently that may prevent you from getting a kidney transplant? How are you coping with these issues?
   b. If there are no issues in the way, that’s great news, when do you hope you can get a kidney transplant?

3. Do you have any living donors that would like to be tested?
   a. How can a kidney transplant change your life?
   b. How can a kidney transplant affect your current state of well-being?

4. Tell me more about your current dialysis experience (only applies to those on dialysis)?
   a. How happy are you with your dialysis treatments? (scale 1-5; 1: very unhappy 5: extremely happy)
   b. What three things contribute the most to how you feel about your dialysis?
   c. Think about things that affect how you feel about dialysis. For example: Distance/travel to/from dialysis unit, time it takes to do dialysis, staff at the unit, how dialysis makes you feel physically and/or emotionally, how it affects your relationship with friends and family, how it affects you financially. Tell me about which of these factors affect how you feel on dialysis.
   d. I am glad you like your dialysis experience. Can you help us understand what things you’ve done that helped you enjoy your dialysis experience? Will you miss the positive experience of dialysis if you get a kidney transplant?

5. Have you ever felt that your care was affected or influenced by your race or ethnicity?
   a. If yes, can you think of any examples where you have experienced something and thought “this is race-related?” What happened?

6. Please tell us anything else you can about your experience with the kidney transplant evaluation process that would aid us in understanding your struggles or concerns