

Supplementary file. Kong et al. What factors contribute to uncontrolled gout and hospital admission: a qualitative study of inpatients and their primary care practitioners

Appendix 1: Interview questions for patients

History of illness

1. Can you tell me about how your gout started?
2. Can you tell me how your gout affects you?
3. What do you do when you have an acute attack of gout or feel that you are developing one?
4. Who is the main health professional that helps you manage your gout?

Medications

5. Can you explain what gout is and how your treatment for gout works?
6. What sort of medications are you currently on for gout? (take medication history for gout medications)
7. Has the health practitioner told you about any risks associated with taking your gout medication?
8. Have you encountered any problems with your gout treatment? How do you deal with these problems?
9. Have you tried any other methods or medications in managing your gout besides the ones mentioned earlier? Are they effective? If so, why or how?

Other management

10. Have you been advised about any dietary or lifestyle changes that you would need to make in management of your gout?
11. How frequent does your doctor check your serum uric acid levels (blood tests) in a year?

Goals of care

12. Are you happy with the control you have with gout? Why do you say so? If not, what would you like to achieve?
13. What do you understand about the goal of gout management?
14. Do you think gout is a potentially curable condition?

Barriers to care

15. Are there factors that have prevented you from receiving satisfactory treatment for gout? How do you deal with these problems?
16. Have you ever been provided with or requested written information about gout from your doctor? Anything else you would like to add that we haven't covered that you think is important about your gout management?

Appendix 2: Interview questions for general practitioners

Patient-specific questions

1. How did you come about to a diagnosis of gout in this patient? If you were not the person who first diagnosed this patient's gout, who did and by what method was the diagnosis confirmed?
2. What targets do you have in managing this patient's gout?
3. What are the complaints this patient has about gout?
4. What associations do you see between gout and other risk factors/comorbidities in this particular patient? (e.g. alcohol abuse, obesity)
5. Have you had any challenges in treating this patient's gout?
6. What are the barriers preventing this patient from receiving ideal treatment of their gout? (e.g. psychosocial factors)
7. Are there any challenges in terms of prescribing medications for this patient? Does he/she comply with the prescribed medications? If not, why or why do you think so?
8. Is there anything else you would like to comment on about the management of this patient's gout?

General questions

9. Is gout a condition you commonly manage in your practice? Please give an estimated percentage.
10. What strategies do you think would improve the management of gout?