

Appendix 1: Candidacy Framework Definitions and Interview Guide

Candidacy Domain	Definition	Interview questions
Identification of Candidacy <i>“My knee is sore, I need to do something about it”</i>	The ability of an individual to appraise their symptoms as deviating from the ‘norm’ and thus recognising them as requiring medical attention.	Can you tell me the story of your knee pain? How does having osteoarthritis impact you physically/socially, emotionally? What did you do for your osteoarthritis before your knee pain got bad?
Navigation <i>“What services can I access for my knee?”</i>	The work involved by the individual to access medical treatment, including the mobilisation of knowledge and resources required to identify care available to them.	Can you tell me about the management strategies you have used to help your osteoarthritis? Do you experience issues that impact on your ability to access services for your knee? (transport, finance, rurality)
Permeability of services <i>“How easy is it to access the services I need?”</i>	The ease at which individuals can gain access to health services, placing particular emphasis on organisational issues related to those services. Services with high permeability require mobilisation of relatively fewer resources (for example services that do not require the patient to make an appointment) compared to those that are considered less permeable, which demand more qualifications from the patient (for example health literacy and referrals).	Can you tell me about your referral pathway/journey? Can you tell me about other types of management for osteoarthritis you’ve heard of but haven’t tried?
Appearances at health services <i>“Can I communicate the pain I am in and the impact it is having on me to the doctors?”</i>	The ability of the individual to assert their claim to Candidacy when presenting for medical treatment. For example, being able to adequately articulate their health concern and communicate their need in a credible manner.	Can you tell me what happened when you went to the GP/specialist/surgeon/physiotherapist?
Adjudications <i>“What do the doctors think I need?”</i>	The decisions and judgements made by health professionals that act as either barriers or facilitators for the individuals’ subsequent access to interventions or treatment	What was recommended to you by your GP for your knee pain, before you decided to have a knee replacement?

Offers and resistance <i>“Should I do what the doctors say I should do?”</i>	The offers of care or intervention made by services and the resistance to those offers by the individual.	How do you think the strategies recommended by the GP would help/impact you? Why didn't you use (strategy) if offered?
Operating conditions and the local production of Candidacy <i>“I've decided to have a TKR, when and where can I have it done?”</i>	Locally specific influences on interactions between practitioners and the individual. These factors relate to the perceived or actual suitability or availability of services for the individual.	How do you think life will be different a year after your knee replacement? Can you tell me how you came to be on the waiting list at [hospital]? Tell me what is like being on the waiting list?