

Appendix 2: Interview Schedule for GPs

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Confirm understanding of study, participation & recording, confidentiality issues & consent
3. I'd like to talk to you first about any contact you or your colleagues had with xxx before he/she was diagnosed with diabetes and then, more generally about some of the issues you think surround the diagnosis of diabetes and other rare childhood conditions in primary care.
4. Did you or one of your colleagues see xx in the month before they were diagnosed with diabetes?
5. Starting with the earliest consultation, who brought the child and why?
[Prompts: symptoms, concerns, agenda?]
6. What did you or your colleague think was wrong?
7. Were any investigations carried out or arranged?
8. Was diabetes considered a possibility at that stage?
[Prompts: why? Particular symptom(s)/intuition/parent mentioning it]
9. Do you remember how you felt at the end of the consultation?
[Prompts: Nothing much wrong/concern but unsure why?]
10. When did you or your colleague next see the child and why?
11. What did you or your colleague think was wrong then?
12. Was diabetes considered a possibility at that stage?
[Prompts: why? Particular symptom(s)/intuition/parent mentioning it]
13. Do you remember how you felt at the end of that consultation?
[Prompts: Nothing much wrong/concern but unsure why?]
14. How did you find out that the child had been diagnosed with diabetes?
15. If you had seen the child before diagnosis, how did you feel then?
[Prompts: Pleased to have found a cause/surprised?]
16. In your opinion, do you feel there was anything that could have been done to diagnose the child with diabetes sooner?
17. Moving on now to diagnosing diabetes in children in general, what are your previous experiences of diagnosing diabetes in children?
[Prompts: Tends to be in hospital, clear cut, easy/difficult?]
18. What do you think are the most common presentations/symptoms of diabetes in children in primary care?
19. Can you think of any particular features of diabetes that make the diagnosis difficult in primary care?
[Prompts: Non-specific symptoms?]

20. Can you think of anything that would help make the diagnosis easier?
21. Moving away from diabetes now, are there any other conditions in children that you think are difficult to diagnose in primary care?
[Prompts: Leukaemia, bone cancer... Why?]
22. Have you personally had any experiences diagnosing these conditions in children that you feel it would be helpful to share with others?
23. Do you think diagnosing rare conditions is different in children than in adults?
[Prompts: More difficult? Why? Role of parents / school]
24. Is there anything else you would like to add or ask?
25. Would you like us to send you a copy of the results of the study?
26. Thanks, confirmation of consent and confidentiality.