

**Supplementary material:** Liddle et al. Mapping patients' experiences from initial symptoms to gout diagnosis: a qualitative exploration

**Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative research (COREQ) checklist.**

<b>Domain 1 : Research team and reflexivity</b>	
<b>Personal characteristics</b>	
1. Interviewer	Primary author (JL)
2. Credentials	MA; PhD Scholar
3. Occupation	Research Associate; PhD Scholar
4. Gender	Female
5. Experience & training	Training and experience in qualitative research methods.
<b>Relationship with participants</b>	
6. Relationship established prior to study commencement	No
7. Participant knowledge of the interviewer	No, though reasons for doing the research were explained.
8. Interviewer characteristics	Interviewer occupation, credentials, experience and gender are detailed above.
<b>Domain 2: Study design</b>	
<b>Theoretical framework</b>	
9. Methodological orientation & theory	Thematic analysis using constant comparison.
<b>Participant selection</b>	
10. Sampling	Maximum variation sampling.
11. Method of approach	Various, including posters in general practices and rheumatology clinics, information packs handed out by members of the study advisory group, information on local and national gout support group websites and other online advertising.
12. Sample size	43
13. Non-participation	N/A
14. Setting of data collection	Participants' homes or workplaces.
15. Presence of non-participants	No
16. Description of sample	Outlined in table 1 of main article text.
<b>Data collection</b>	
17. Interview guide	Topic guide drafted and revised following discussions with a patient group.
18. Repeat interviews	No repeat interviews were conducted.
19. Audio/visual recording	Interviews were audio- and/or video-recorded according to participant preference.

20. Field notes	Brief notes written after interviews.
21. Duration	Range 25-120 minutes.
22. Data saturation	Sampling continued until data saturation and representation across pre-determined categories (age, gender etc. as detailed in main article text) achieved.
23. Transcripts returned	Transcripts were offered to all participants.
<b>Domain 3: analysis and findings</b>	
<b>Data analysis</b>	
24. Number of data coders	3 coders
25. Description of coding tree	The coding process is discussed in the main article text.
26. Derivation of themes	Analytic themes relating to diagnosis were discussed and developed from the coded data by JL and JR. Existing models of delays to diagnosis and pathways to treatment were used as frameworks to assist in the analysis of the process leading to diagnosis.
27. Software	NVivo (QRS) qualitative data analysis software version 9.
28. Participant checking	Participants provided feedback on researcher-written accounts of their own individual experiences as part of the wider study.
<b>Reporting</b>	
29. Quotations presented	Supporting quotations presented.
30. Data and findings consistent	Yes
31. Clarity of major themes	A clear presentation of major themes is outlined.
32. Clarity of minor themes	Variations in views and experiences within themes are presented.