

Supplementary Material 4 – Patient interview schedule

REC number: 15/WM/0025

Understanding and improving the decision-making process for treating people who are critically ill

Interview schedule for interviews with patients

We are interested in decisions that the doctors looking after you made when you were in hospital and very unwell.

Can you recall any conversations with the doctors and nurses looking after you about your care?

Are you aware of any decisions that the doctors looking after you made about your care?

What decisions do you recall being made?

Can you describe your experience of how these decisions were made?

Focussing on the decision regarding whether to admit to ICU the following questions/prompts will be used:

Looking back to that decision we would like to hear your reflections – please tell me

What do you remember about how the decision was made?

Were you involved in the decision in any way? ...In what way were you involved?

Do you think the way the decisions were made could be improved in any way? ...In what way could they be improved?

What kind of information would have been helpful to you at that time? (prompts includes content and format)

If the patient has no memory of this decision so does not identify to in the first part of the interview the interviewer will say:

One decision that the doctors treating you had to make was about whether to admit you to intensive care.

Do you know if your family was involved in this decision? ...In what way were they involved?

Do you think the way these decisions were made could be improved in any way? ...In what way could they be improved?

What kind of information do you think would be helpful for patients and their families in these situations? (prompts includes content and format)