

Semi-Structured Interview Guide – POWER Trial

1. Introduction and Consent (5 min)

- Brief explanation of the study purpose
- Clarification that participation is voluntary and anonymous
- Request for permission to record
- Verbal or written consent

2. General Understanding of the Project and Experience (10 min)

1. Can you describe your experience of participating in the POWER project?
2. What do you think were the objectives of the project?
3. How did you first hear about the project, and what motivated you to participate?

3. Understanding and Perceptions of Randomisation (20 min)

4. During your enrolment, you were told that participants would be randomly assigned to different groups. What did you understand by this?
5. How was this randomisation explained to you? By whom? In what language?
6. What were your first reactions when you were told that the group assignment would be random?
7. Did you feel the random assignment was fair? Why or why not?
8. Were there any moments when you doubted or questioned the fairness of the process?
9. Did you (or others) try to influence the assignment process in any way?
10. In your opinion, what would be a fair way to assign participants in a study like this?

4. Perceived Consequences and Ethical Concerns (15 min)

11. Do you feel that the way the groups were assigned had any effect on your access to care or support?
12. Do you think some participants were more favoured than others?
13. Looking back, how do you feel about the process now?
14. If you had the opportunity to change something about how participants were assigned, what would it be?
15. Do you think these procedures respected your dignity and rights?

5. Final Thoughts and Suggestions (5 min)

16. Do you have any suggestions for researchers conducting similar projects in the future?

17. Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience?

Notes to Interviewer

- Adapt the language to the respondent's level of understanding.
- Clarify concepts such as "randomisation" or "lottery" with simple metaphors.
- Emphasize confidentiality and encourage honesty.
- Use probes when necessary (e.g., "Can you tell me more about that?", "How did that make you feel?").