Pilot study in preparation for a Pragmatic Randomized Controlled Trial of Tele-Health for Early Stage Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

TOPIC GUIDE

Patients in Technology-Assisted Cohort

1. **Aim of Interviews:**
To identify why the patient accepted technology as part of their care post hospital discharge for early stage COPD.

2. **Introduction:**
- Introduce yourself
- Introduce the study i.e. about the participants experience of the technology-assisted community nursing service for COPD
- Reassure re: confidentiality and anonymity:
  - Confirm that the interview is solely for the use of the researchers and any discussions will not be communicated in any way to any service provider
  - The report will pull together findings from all participants in the study and no individual will be identified.
- Remind on length of interview
- Introduce tape recorder and explain transcription, data storage and destruction (post publication of findings)
- Check to see if the participant is willing for the researcher to use a tape recorder
  - If yes, proceed
  - If no, researcher to record notes manually and explain that the written notes are to be used as an aide-memoire for the researcher
- Check if participant has any questions at all at this stage
- Check if participant still happy to participate in the interview
- Thank the person for agreeing to participate

3. **Approach:**
- Who told you about the technology?
- What were you told about the technology?
- Did they explain everything you needed to know about the technology at that time?
- Did you have any additional questions at that time?
- Were you happy with how everything was explained about the technology?
- Is there anything you would change about your introduction to the technology?

4. **First thoughts**
- Who told you about the technology that you may be asked to use?
- What was your first reaction?
- Did you have any concerns about the technology?
  - What were they?
    - Did you worry about being able to use it?
    - Did you worry about breaking it?
- Did you ask for any more information about the technology?
  - What did you want to know?
  - Who did you ask?
  - Were they able to answer your questions?
- Were you shown the equipment before you agreed to use it?
- If you were shown the equipment, who showed the equipment to you?
- If you were shown the equipment, what did you think of the equipment when you saw it?
- Did you have any concerns about using the equipment when you saw it?
- How confident were you that there was someone available to help you with the equipment if you needed them?
- Were there any other reasons apart from the ones we have already discussed why you decided that you did want to use any technology as part of your care?

5. **Final thoughts:**
- Do you have any final thoughts/comments about the equipment?
- Do you have any final thoughts/comments about the service?
- Is there is anything else you would like to ask about the research?
- Thank the participant for their time and contribution