

STEP 3 GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE - ACCOMPANYING PATIENTS

PREAMBLE

Interview duration

- Thank the participant for agreeing to answer our questions as part of our study.
- Specify that the interview will last :
 - Approximately 30 minutes
 - Approximately 45 to 60 minutes for other categories of key players

Interview rules

- As specified in the information and consent form, everything said will remain **confidential**. To protect your confidentiality, your name will not appear anywhere and you will remain entirely anonymous.
- At any time during our conversation, let me know if you have any **questions** or if you prefer **not to answer** a particular question. Also, you can decide **to stop the interview** at any time.
- Remember that we want to know **what you think and feel**. So there is no right or wrong answer.

Information and consent form

- Have you read **and understood** the Information and consent form?
- Do you have any questions in connection with the information and consent form?
- The interviewer signs both copies, then invites the participant to sign in turn.
- Then hand the participant his or her copy.
- Make sure the participant agrees to the interview being recorded.

(BEGIN RECORDING)

BACKGROUND

I'd like to start with a few questions about your current job.

1. **How did you hear about the project? How long have you been a AP?**

THE INVOLVEMENT OF APs IN ONCOLOGY

Our research project aims to evaluate the implementation of accompanying patients in oncology.

I'd like to have your **point of view** on the PAROLE-Onco... on various dimensions:

- Co-construction mechanisms implemented
- Factors that promote or hinder the introduction of APs (at the organizational level and within the research project)
- Knowledge transfer practices of APs
- Ethical and legal issues of introduction
- Dimensions affected by AP interventions

General question

2. How would you describe **the experience within this [organization / program]** as an accompanying patient?
 - Is it a good experience, why?
 - For the implementation side, if you had to do it all over again, what advice would you give?

The co-construction mechanisms implemented

3. Did you participate in the co-construction of the intervention in your facility, or have you heard that patients were involved in developing the intervention?
 - If so, how and what do you think?

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Factors that help or hinder the implementation of APs

4. To implement APs, were specific resources (human, financial, infrastructural or informational) allocated ?
 - If yes: With hindsight, do you consider they were **sufficient**?
5. In your opinion, was the company's **culture ready to accept the arrival of these changes**?
6. What **elements of the organizational culture facilitated or hindered** the involvement of APs with other patients?
 - Leadership of the facility?
 - Policies and procedures?
 - Teamwork?
7. To your knowledge, what **factors** have had **success in involving APs with other patients**? Which ones?
 - Which **actions were not successful**? Why?
 - What would you do **differently**?
 - Outside help?
 - Structuring?
 - How can we prepare professionals to work with them?

Dimensions affected by AP interventions

8. From your perspective, what would be the **effects** of AP involvement **with patients**?
 - Which dimensions are sensitive to the AP?
 - On patients : symptoms of illness/quality of life, compliance, experience of care, partnership and activation, use of the healthcare system
 - On APs: gives meaning to their history, social usefulness, grief
 - On the team: care partnership, collaborative practices, improved knowledge, interest in working with APs
 - On the organization: redesign of care pathways
 - What are the mechanisms or actions that enable these results?

Knowledge transfer

9. Do you think that accompanying patients are agents of knowledge transfer for the transfer of **information from patients to care teams**? If so, of what kind? And can this have an impact on the design of the partnership with patients?

Ethical and legal issues

11. Did you have to deal with **any ethical or legal issues** during the project? If so, how did you address them?
 - What recommendations would you make if other facilities were interested in setting up PAROLE-Onco?

More generally...

12. In your opinion, would this model be worth sustaining and implementing in other programs within your organization?
 - What **would you like to see happen in the future**?
 - What would it take to get to this point?
 - How could such an approach be made sustainable?
13. What's the most important **message** you'd like to get out of the interview?
14. Is there anything else you'd like **to add**? Any other topics you'd like to discuss and **think are important to explore**?

Thank you very much for taking part in this interview.