

STEP 3 GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE - PROFESSIONALS

Example

PREAMBLE

Length of interview

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

Interview rules

- As stated 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 completely 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 related to 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)

1. Have you heard of accompanying patients in your program ? If so, do you know why they were introduced ?
2. Were you apprehensive about introducing accompanying patients into your program? If so, what were they ?
3. Did you have any expectations when introducing accompanying patients into your program ? If so, what were they ?
4. Have you already worked with a accompanying patient since their introduction into your program ?
If so, what have you gained from working with them ?
5. What have been the **difficulties encountered at organizational level**, in communicating with them, or in your work ?
6. Do you feel more comfortable working with a accompanying patient now ?
7. Has working with an accompanying patient met your expectations ?
8. Have you had direct contact with them and have they helped you in the development of your treatment plans with patients ?
9. Do you feel that their contribution is complementary to that made by the caregivers ?
10. Have the APs helped you **to better understand patients' concerns** ? Have you learned other things thanks to the presence of the APs ?
11. Do the APs bring an interesting perspective for improving the service ?
12. Does the presence of accompanying patients help you to involve the patient in the development of his or her treatment plan ?
13. Does the presence of accompanying patients increase your workload ?
14. Do you feel that accompanying patients help patients
 - on psychological health : hope, depression, energy, sleep, guilt, better ability to receive help, etc.?
 - on physical health (disability) : better adherence to treatment (coming to appointments but also doing their own exercises), better projection of their ability to recover from their cancer, better relationship with the care team (occupational therapist and surgeons), etc.
 - at the social level : relationships with family and friends, ability to return to work or studies, etc.

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15. What organizational obstacles (if any) prevent them from being introduced to the AP team ?
16. Do you see any legal issues surrounding the participation of accompanying patients in your program? Do you have any questions on this subject that would need to be answered ?
17. Has the presence of the AP led to any changes in :
 - your way of working ?
 - the patients' care path ? Could we work together to establish the current pathway ?

Here's the pathway as established at the start of the project.

18. Do you have any other concerns you'd like to share ?

Thank you very much for taking part in this group discussion.