Additional file 1 - Interview guide for the analysis of continuity of care (translated from Spanish)

Date of interview: Time of initiation/finalization: Healthcare organization: Location:

Contextual analysis and socioeconomic analysis: sex, age, date of birth, place of birth / time in Catalonia / Spain, profession, occupation, level of education, private health insurance;

CONTEXTUALIZATION AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE USE OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Health condition How do you feel / how is your health?

Use of healthcare services

What type of health services have you used? For what kind of disease / condition? How was your experience with the health services used?

CONTINUITY OF CLINICAL MANAGEMENT ACROSS CARE LEVELS

Transition between $PC \leftrightarrow SC^1$

Has your GP referred you once to a **specialist**? Why? How was it? Has your specialist referred you once to your **GP**? Why? How was it? Have you ever been hospitalized? Have you gone to the emergency room once? Why? After hospital/emergency discharge, have you been sent to a different service? Why? How was it?

Accessibility to PC and SC

Do you consider that your GP/ specialist is **accessible**? Why? What **facilitates** the use of healthcare services? Why? What **difficulties** do you encounter when you try to use healthcare services? What do you do to overcome those difficulties?

General perception of coordination and collaboration

Do you think that the **care is coordinated** among the physicians that see you? Why? Do you consider that the physicians **work together**? Why?

Care coherence (tests, indications, treatment)

Do the physicians recommend you the **same treatment**? Have you ever received **conflicting information**? What information? What did you do in this case?

When you are attended to at a different service, do physicians **repeat diagnostic tests**? Why? What do you think about it?

¹ PC - primary care; SC – secondary care (outpatient care, emergency care and inpatient care) Waibel et al. 2016

CONTINUITY OF INFORMATON ACROSS CARE LEVELS

Information transfer across care levels and its use

Do you think that the GP **knows the medical indications** that the specialist has given you previously, before you explain them to the GP? And the specialist knows those of the GP? Why? What do you think about it?

Have you had to **repeat** your clinical history or test results during the visits with your GP / specialist? Why? And in the emergency department / hospital?

RELATIONAL CONTINUITY (INTRA-LEVEL)

Person responsible for care provision

Do you think that there is someone who is **responsible** for your care (treatment)? Who is it? Why?

Is there any **other professional** (nurse, social worker, etc.) that you consider important in your care? Why

Consistency of clinical personnel

Are you always seen by the same GP / specialist? Why? What do you think?

Patient-physician relationship

How is the **relationship** with your GP / specialist / other professionals identified? (Do you think the physician **cares** about you? Why? Do you **trust** your physician? Why?)

Knowledge about values and preferences

Do you think that your GP / specialist **knows you**? Why? Does he/she knows your **clinical history** (antecedents, medication, tests performed) **personal circumstances**, **needs**? Why? What do you think?

Patient-physician communication

How is the **communication** between you and your GP / specialist? Does the physician **understand** you? And do you understand your physician? What do you think about the **information** that your GP / specialist gives you?