

## Topic guide for semi-structured interviews

- *Question:* Please tell me why you are here and the type of care you have received, without giving personal medical details?

*Question prompts:* Which ward/departments have you spent time in? For how long?

- *Question:* When did you first meet the physician associate (name)?

*Question prompts:* Did you meet the physician associate (name) on any other occasions?

- *Question:* Please describe what happened during your encounter/s with the physician associate?

*Question prompts:* What did they do? What did they say? How did you respond? Did you discuss anything? Did you ask any questions? Were you given any advice/information?

Were any decisions made?

- *Question:* How do you feel about the care you received from the physician associate during your encounter/s?

*Question prompts:* Was there anything you particularly liked/disliked? Was there anything you thought particularly helpful/unhelpful? Was it what you expected or not? Was it the same or different from care received from other staff in the hospital?

- *Question:* What are your feelings about how the physician associate communicated with you?

*Question prompts:* What was your general impression? Was there anything you particularly liked/disliked? Was there anything you thought particularly helpful/unhelpful? Overall, how satisfied were you?

- *Question:* If you were to need medical care in future, would you be content to be attended by a physician associate or would you prefer someone different?

*Question prompts:* Please explain your reasons why?

- *Question:* Is there anything else you would like to say or to comment on?

*Exploratory prompts for all questions:* Why do you feel that way? Can you tell me a little more about that? Why is that? How do you feel about that? Is there anything else you can think of?