Conducting interviews about penile cancer: a patient-conducted-interview study

Peter Branney, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Men’s Health, Leeds Metropolitan University
Karl Witty, Centre for Men’s Health, Leeds Metropolitan University
Ian Eardley, Consultant Urologist, St. James’ Hospital, Leeds

Outline of Workshop

Registration
Welcome & informed consent
Introduction to topic and interview techniques
Focus Groups: patients split into two groups (A and B) to design interview schedules
Interviews: participants from the focus groups take turns interviewing (audio or video) and being interviewed by someone from another focus group (A>B or A<B)
Debrief

Focus Group Analysis

The interview schedules from each workshop will be compared to identify and organise emergent (i.e. unexpected) themes as well as those that were anticipated, using the method of constant comparison.

Focus Group and Interview Analysis

Two researchers will use the method of thematic analysis to analyse focus group and interview transcripts. This would help identify issues that are important to the patients rather than those that the researchers think are important. Once identified, themes representing the full range of experiences would be written up and organised into overarching categories. Each researcher would prepare half the themes and, with relevant members of the steering group, check the other researchers themes to ensure consistency and quality.

Four step informed consent process

Invitation
• A health professional invites potential participants in person and gives them a recruitment pack. Those interested return a stamp-addressed envelope completing a few biographical questions and providing their contact details

Personal Contact
• A researcher telephones those interested to make personal contact, to explain the study and answer any questions

Attend Workshop
• At the welcome to the workshop, the researchers will outline the day and what will be done with their data. Participants are asked to sign a consent form

Assign Copyright
• After the workshop, participants will be sent copies of any transcripts in which they speak. They will be asked to highlight any items they want removing. Furthermore, they will be asked to assign copyright to the researchers to use their data in video, audio (with the option to have an actor speak their words) or only written formats depending on their preference