Collaborative Practice by Nurse Practitioners and Physicians in Long-Term Care Homes: A Mixed Methods Study
Semi-Structured Individual Interview Guide: MD or NP

1 INTRODUCTION

1. Introductions.
2. Review purpose of provider interview: obtain data regarding current collaboration.
3. Interview mechanics:
   - 60-90 minutes maximum in length,
   - Will occasionally check the clock and the tape recorder.
4. Interview process:
   - Allow you to talk about your collaboration,
   - My role to listen and if needed to prompt from my check-list of questions to ensure that all necessary areas are covered,
   - Please ask for clarification if needed.
5. Reassurance regarding confidentiality:
   - Specific content of the questionnaire and taped interview is confidential,
   - Content is only for the use of the research team.

QUESTIONS

1. Tell me about yourself:
   - Educational preparation: where and type of program,
   - Previous medical, nurse practitioner, or nursing experience, describe,
   - Previous experience with collaboration, including in your education. Describe.
2. Tell me about your practice:
   - How complex is the practice?
   - Who do you see the most? E.g., Age groups/gender.
   - What are the most common reasons?
   - How receptive is your practice to health promotion/disease prevention?
3. Tell me about how you and the (nurse practitioners or physicians) work together:
   - Give me a patient example of when you would consult with the (MD) (NP),
   - Give me a patient example of when the (MD) (NP) would consult with you,
   - Give me a patient example of when the (MD) (NP) would refer a patient to you,
   - Give me a patient example of when you would refer to the (MD) (NP),
   - Give me an example of when the MD and NP collaboratively care for a patient,
   - Give me an example of when the MD would be the best provider to communicate with community agencies, e.g., Community Care Access Centre,
   - Give me an example of when the NP would be the best provider to communicate with community agencies, e.g., Community Care Access Centre.
   - Tell me about how you make decisions together.
   - How do share your philosophies of care and how does that affect the decision-making process?
• When you make decisions together, how do you decide who will be responsible for the care?
• If you disagree about a diagnosis or treatment, how would you resolve that disagreement?
• How do you make decisions about who will see which patient?
• How would you describe your communication with one another?
• How do you communicate during urgent situations? How would you rate these communication methods for effectiveness on a scale of 1-10, with 1 being least effective and 10 being most effective?
• What are your routine communication mechanisms? How would you rate these communication methods for effectiveness on a scale of 1-10, with 1 being least effective and 10 being most effective?
• Do you trust one another’s ability to make decisions? Could you expand on how the trust (is or is not) demonstrated?
• Do you respect one another’s knowledge and skills? Could you expand on how respect (is or is not) demonstrated?
• How do you facilitate and support one another’s practice?
• How would you define collaborative practice?
• What is most important or best supports collaboration? Please consider this at the individual, local, and governmental levels.
• What are barriers to MD-NP collaboration that you have encountered or of which you are aware? Please consider this at the individual, local, and governmental levels.
• What are the most important outcomes of MD-NP collaborative practice?

4. Is there any other information you want to give me about your current MD-NP collaboration that we haven’t already talked about?

5. Please write down on this piece of paper, the three most important behaviours that indicate the MD and NP are practicing collaboratively.

[Adapted by Faith Donald from Jones, Way and Associates. All rights reserved. Used with permission from Jones, Way and Associates]

Reference