

The FAR Study.

Topic Guide. September-December 2020.

Could you give us a brief overview of your current role and responsibilities in the Trust?

Can you tell us how you felt the trust was operating in the late 2019's and early 2020's prior to the COVID-19 pandemic?

What would you have seen as its major challenges at that time?

Had there been any changes in personnel in the trust leadership group?

How did these change during the time period March-July 2020?

What became the major challenges?

Were any of the leadership group lost during that time period (employment move/sickness)?

What was the most challenging aspect(s) of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic in the trust?

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic where did research fit into Trust priorities?

How was research activity reported to the board and how often did this occur?

When the COVID -19 pandemic started how did this change?

Were you aware of any research work force redeployment to the frontline (medical, nursing or other)?

If so do you think there were any other alternative options at the time?

How were you and/or the board informed of COVID-19 research activity?

Did this information change the priority research had at board level?

How did knowledge of the COVID research activity in the Trust make you feel?

How often were you aware of staff talking about the RECOVERY study (or any other COVID research) between themselves?

If so, was it mentioned everyday / was information about the study displayed in clinical areas or communicated in the Trust comms?

How did knowledge of the COVID research activity in the Trust make you feel?

What do you feel aided recruitment?

What were the main challenges to recruitment?

Did staff sickness impact?

Did patient numbers impact?

How were these things addressed during the main recruitment period?

What do you feel drove recruitment? Who do you think drove recruitment?

Did patients / relatives ask about research studies?

Would there have been anything other that could have been done to aid further recruitment?

Is there anything else you feel is important to say regarding the RECOVERY study and the recruitment of participants to it?

How would you like to see urgent public health research such as the Recovery Trial develop within the Trust and what are the main barriers to this?

Thanks.