

Attachment 1: Interview guide

Introduction

- Welcome to the interview, my name is XY and I am a staff member in the Selection Procedures Department at UKE.
- We want to use this study to better understand the motivation for studying midwifery, that is why do individuals want to study the subject.
- I will start an audio recording of our conversation in a moment. Your responses will be pseudonimised and will not affect your study progress or be shared with your clinical placement institution.
- [If participant has not yet consented] You were asked in the email to send us a completed consent form. To date, you have not completed the statement and we cannot conduct the interview without consent. Do you still want to consent? [If not, stop interview] Then please send us the completed consent form today.
- You will receive an email within a few days after the interview with a 25 € voucher as a thank you for your participation.
- Do you have any questions? [If yes, respond to them if possible. Offer participants the option of switching their camera off].

Reflection on own motivation

- First, we would like to know more about your personal motivation for studying midwifery.
 - In what semester are you?
 - What motivated you to apply to the midwifery program?
 - Can you tell how and when this motivation came about?
 - Was your intention to study midwifery influenced by the professional experiences of others? For example, by family members or friends?
 - Have you also thought about studying or training for something else, or have you already studied or trained for something else? If yes: Why did you decide to study midwifery? What did you want to study or where did you want to study or do your training? Have you had any practical experience in healthcare?
 - Were there any negative aspects about the midwifery program that you considered when deciding to apply? If yes: Why did you decide to study anyway?
 - Where did you see yourself professionally at the beginning of your studies and has this view changed over the past time of study?
 - Assuming we would meet again in 10 years. How do you imagine your ideal professional situation? If necessary, ask: What would you do exactly? What would your responsibilities be?
 - What aspect of midwifery appeals to you most?

Reflection on motivation of others

- Now we will ask you a few more questions about the motivation of people interested in midwifery.
 - What personal qualities should you have in order to be successful in the midwifery program?
 - When would you advise someone not to major in midwifery?
 - More specifically, what would be wrong motivating reasons?

Reflection on the profession

- Lastly, we would like to hear more about your impression of working as a midwife.
 - What do you find attractive about the profession of midwife?
 - What are the challenges of the midwifery profession?
 - What do you think about the fact that midwifery training is now linked to a university degree?

Closing questions

- Would you like to add something?
 - If not, I'll end the recording now. [End recording]
 - Thank you again for your participation. You're really helping us a lot with this.
 - Do you have any questions or comments? [If yes, respond to them if possible.]
 - Then we can close the meeting now. We will send you your voucher by email in the next few days. Goodbye.