Interview guide for interviews with parents of injured children
(study F)

You have filled in the questionnaire for us which gave us lots of information about what you do and think about to help keep your children safe. I’d like to talk to you in a bit more detail about this.

There are no right or wrong answers; we just want to find out what parents think help to keep children safe from accidents and what makes it hard to do this.

1. Can I just check I have got the right information about you from the questionnaire?
   • 1A. There are x number of children living here and it was xx that had the accident?
   • 1B. The accident happened --- give date, so that’s xx long ago now?
   • 1C. If it’s Ok with you I would like to ask you a bit more about the accident, but first could we talk more generally about what you think about child safety?

2. Can you start by telling me what kind of things you do around the home to help keep your child/children safe from having accidents?

Prompt: Separate out answers for different children if more than one child in the family. Prompt parents with regard to different areas in the house that they don’t mention e.g. kitchen, bathroom, stairs

3. What do you find are the main things that make it difficult to keep your children safe around the home?

4. How do you find out about child safety?

Prompts if necessary:

• Talk to other people? Who?

• Telly? Children’s programmes?

• Leaflets, books etc? Where from?
5. From your experience what has been the most useful advice or information you have received and/or seen? Why?

6. In the questionnaire we asked about lots of different things that parents do to help keep their children safe at home. For you and xx, what is/are the most important thing/s?

Prompt: If parent can’t think straight away prompt with what we asked about in questionnaire

- Safety equipment, such as stair gates or ways to store medicines
- Teaching children not to touch or other safety rules
- Things about your home/garden/where you live
- Things about your child - age/gender/personality
- Things about being able to keep an eye on your child
- Things about your life and how you feel

7. Can you tell me why this is more important?

Prompt: If parent can’t think straight away prompt with what we asked about in questionnaire and mention other strategies parent did not

- Safety equipment, such as stair gates or ways to store medicines
- Teaching children not to touch or other safety rules
- Things about your home/garden/where you live
- Things about your child - age/gender/personality
- Things about being able to keep an eye on your child
- Things about your life and how you feel
- Draw out differences/similarities between siblings

8. Is there anything that makes it difficult for you to be able to keep xx safe in the way you think is most important?

9. Is it Ok if we talk a bit more about xx accident now? You said that xx had xx kind of accident – were you surprised that this happened?
• 9A. Why is that?
• 9B. Had anything like this happened before?

Prompt: [If parent has not described] prompt for more detail about the accident
• eg if it was a slip trip or fall downstairs ask if it was all the way downstairs etc)
• What else was happening at the time, was something different to usual routine happening?
• What would have stopped it happening?
• How is xx doing now?
• And how about you?

• 9C. Have your thoughts about child safety changed since the accident?
  If yes, in what ways?

Prompt: if parent has not said they do things differently prompt with, do you do anything different now since the accident?

10. Do you think what you do to keep xx safe is similar to other parents with children the same age? In what kind of ways is it the same or different?

11. [For parents that have other children]
• 11A. Is what you do to keep xx safe different to what you have done/will do with your other children?
• 11B. Have you changed anything you have done compared with your older children?
• 11C. Do you think you would do anything differently with your younger children?

12. Do you think there is anything anybody could do to help stop xx (and other children if applicable) having accidents generally?
13. By talking to lots of parents we would like to build up a picture of what might help parents to stop children having accidents, can you think of anything that might help you?

• 13A. If no, why?

• 13B. If yes, who and what would this be?

• 13C. Some people think it is good for children to learn by taking risks and some don’t – what do you think about this?

• 13D. Some parents try to prevent the accidents that they think might be more serious but don’t try to prevent accidents that they think are less serious. Where would your views on how to keep children safe fit in with this?

14. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about in relation to child safety?

Thank you very much for talking to me. I have some information leaflets about child safety with me if you would be interested in having any?

Tell parent what happens now with the information.