**Table 1.** Example interview topics and questions

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| Interview topics |  Example questions |
| Knowledge and experience | *Could you give me an outline of what happened to your child for them to need emergency treatment for severe infection?* *Do you know if your child was given a fluid bolus?* *Have you ever heard of a clinical trial before?* *Have you ever been asked if your child could take part in a clinical trial?* |
| Participant information  | *Looking at the information sheet, are there any parts of the study that you think parents may find difficult to understand?**Would you have any questions about the FiSh Trial?**Would you have any concerns about the FiSh Trial?* |
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| Consent decision-making | *Are there sections of the FiSh information sheet which you would prioritise when making your decision about whether or not to consent?* *How much time would you need to consider the information before making a decision about the FiSh Trial?* |
| Approach to consent  | *[Following the description in Box 1]* *Have you ever heard of research without prior consent (RWPC) before?**What do you think about the use of RWPC in the proposed FiSh Trial?**When do you think is the best time to approach a family to discuss the FiSh Trial?* |
|  |  |
| Participation  | *Would you have given your permission for the use of your child’s data in the FiSh Trial?* *[Prompt] Could you tell me a bit more about your reasons for this?* |
|  |  |
| For bereaved parents only | *What do you think about approaching parents for consent for their child’s data after they have passed away?**What advice would you give doctors and nurses on how to go about approaching bereaved parents for consent for the FiSh Trial?**How do you think this should be done? [Prompt: explore: face-to-face, telephone call, letter]**When do you think is the best time for doctors and nurses to approach bereaved parents for consent?* |