

Interview guide

Topic	Sub-topic	Primary questions	Follow-up questions
Introduction		Introduction to the project and clarify that we will not discuss the medical treatment of deceased.	Consent-formula signing.
		Introduction to A.S. and assistant Gathering consent (Formula) and inform that the interview will be recorded and used in articles with anonymity. Inform that their consent can be withdrawn.	Give contact information to participants, in case that they want to withdraw their consent or if they want a follow-up conversation with S.M.
	<i>Psychological screening</i>	“How do you feel after such a traumatic experience?” “Have you had sufficient support from your friends and family?”	
The out-of-hospital cardiac arrest itself	<i>Participant's recollection of the situation</i>	“If we travel back to that day, could you then tell us what happened?” “How did you experience the EMDC?” “When the ambulance arrived, what ensued?”	“Who was there?” “What happened?” “What lead up to this?” “How did their words affect your situation?” “What was your role, when the doctor and paramedics came?”
	<i>Voluntary first responders*</i>	“Were there any Voluntary first responders/HeartRunners?” “How did experience the presence of HeartRunners?”	If yes: “Did you know any of them?” - How did that feel? “What did the heart runners do after the paramedics took over the procedure?” Depending on the answer

			- "Was that good or bad?"
	<i>The resuscitation attempt</i>	"How long time did they try to resuscitate the deceased?" "Where were you, and what became your role?" Did you experience any care from the doctor or paramedics?	"How did you experience care? Was it physical attention?"
Collaboration and communication with the responding PA	<i>Communication during the resuscitation attempt</i>	"How did the paramedics interact with you?" "Did you receive any updates about the process?" "How did you get involved?" "Did they warn you before they terminated the resuscitation attempt?" "Did you get the chance to say goodbye to your loved one, before they terminated the resuscitation attempt?" "How did you get informed about the fact your loved one had passed away." "Could this have been conveyed in a different way?"	"How did that make you feel?" "How did that make you feel?"
	<i>Post-resuscitation attempt</i>	The deceased stayed in the home: "How was it?" "Was it your choice?" "What made you want to keep the deceased in your home?" The deceases got taken to the hospital/chapel "How was it?" "Was it your choice?"	"Would you rather have had you loved one taken to the chapel or hospital?"

		“What made you want to get the deceased taken to the chapel/hospital?”	“Would you rather have had your loved one at home?”
	<i>Information to the next of kin</i>	“When death had occurred, did you then feel well informed on what was going to happen now?”	“Was there any information that you felt you had not received?” “Were you in a state of mind where you could receive information?” “Which information did you get?”
	<i>The leaflet distributed by the prehospital personnel</i>	“Were the pieces of information in the leaflet useful?”	Was there anything missing from the leaflet? “Did you need more/different information apart from the leaflet?”
The overall impression of the PAs interpersonal actions or lack thereof	<i>Personnel</i>	“Could you have used more support from healthcare professionals than what you received?” “What could the staff have done differently? Any suggestions?”	“And if so, what?” “Was there anything particularly good or bad that the doctor or paramedics did?”
After the PA left the scene	<i>Follow-up conversation</i>	“Have you or any other relatives that you know of felt the need for a follow-up conversation/review of the process with the ambulance doctor?”	
	<i>The aftermath</i>	“In the process afterward, have you experienced sufficient support from the healthcare system?”	“What measures would have helped in your situation?” “What support have you received? How has it helped you?”
	<i>Rounding off</i>	“Are there other subjects that you would like to discuss that we haven’t touched upon?”	

“Is there anything that you think
could have/should have been
different in the whole situation?”

Appendix 1: Interviewguide